

THE BLUE RIBBON
OF THE TURF



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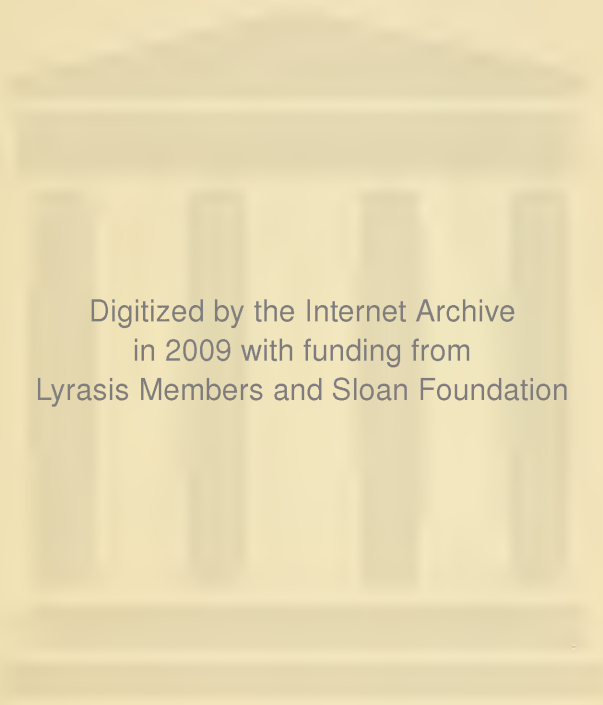
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LONDON: CHATTO & WINDUS, PICCADILLY, W.

THE BLUE RIBBON OF THE TURF.

THE BLUE RIBBON OF THE TURF

A Chronicle of the Race for the Derby, from the victory of Diomed to that of Donovan; with notes on the winning horses, the men who trained them, the jockeys who rode them, and the gentlemen to whom they belonged; also notices of the betting and the betting men of the period; together with an account of the surroundings of the Race, and brief accounts of the Oaks.

BY

LOUIS HENRY CURZON

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK: 'You do not know what the Derby is.'
BENJAMIN D'ISRAELI: 'Yes, I do; it is the blue ribbon of the turf.'

LONDON

CHATTO & WINDUS, PICCADILLY

1890

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L. Bertram, James Glass

PREFACE.

WHEN the hundredth anniversary of the Derby fell to be celebrated, I thought we might then see announced a history of the turf's most-coveted prize. But the centenary of the world-renowned race passed over without anyone having ventured to write a sketch of its history. That task has in the meantime been left to me; and has been a pleasant one, although materials for a chronicle of the earlier contests have proved scarce.

I have made several vain searches to procure a list of 'entries' for the first Derby; fortunately, however, the names of the *runners* for what proved to be the beginning of a wonderful series of fine races have been preserved, and a competent authority has informed me that the entries for the premier Derby were taken when the horses were 'two-year-olds,' and that the gentlemen promised to subscribe again.

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It would be interesting to obtain a list of the subscribers, and the names and pedigrees of the animals named for the race ; likewise, some information of the way in which the race was run and won. All I have gleaned is included in the following pages, so that the reader may speedily become as well informed on the subject as the writer.

Could early commentators have foreseen the future magnitude of the race, and that in course of time it would become of international importance, the public, from the date of its institution, would doubtless have been placed in possession of some curious details regarding the Derby that cannot now be obtained, which would be read with avidity, not only by all who interest themselves in the affairs of the turf, but by the general reader as well.

A countless number of ' Derby ' sketches have been written during the last fifty years, many of which are interesting ; but I think I am correct in saying that this is the first history of the Derby which has taken the form of a ' book,' and the story of a book is sometimes said to be of even greater interest than the book itself, could it be known. That is a saying which many will endorse, and so far as the present work

is concerned, there can be no objection to its history being told : it is simple enough.

The author longed to see the chief incidents of the race brought into focus, as well as some account of the horses running, and of their owners and jockeys ; also details of the betting, and the hundred and one occurrences which have taken place since Diomed earned the first ' Blue Ribbon ' for Sir Charles Bunbury—' hence these presents.'

The process of compiling this work has from beginning to end been a labour of love ; as a matter of fact, it has been ' dug ' out of old newspapers and sporting records of many kinds—calendars, magazines, and memoirs.

By the time the Derby begins to grow old, as will be gathered from a perusal of the following pages, each successive year presents some new feature, such as the timing of the race, the opening of a line of railway to Epsom, the inauguration of a Parliamentary debate about the event, and the first use of the telegraph. Other years are marked by other incidents, such as the Running Rein fraud, the Gladiateur triumph, ' the Bend Or scare,' Fordham's first Derby victory, etc. Slight sketches of the pedigrees and

performances of the more celebrated horses which have won the race are also given, likewise brief memoirs and anecdotes of many of their owners, trainers, and riders.

Information about bets and betting men, Derby dreams and omens, and money won on Epsom Heath, are included in the following pages, and the writer trusts that in recording what he knows he will not be accused of chronicling small-beer, his opinion being that all that can be said regarding our national racing holiday, and the event which has given it birth, is worth saying.

In conclusion, all the author claims for this book is that, so far as it goes, it is a painstaking record of our chief Isthmian game. There are men, however, engaged on the sporting press of the period who could probably write a fuller and better history—only they have made no sign of doing so.

MAYFAIR,

April 25th, 1890.

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THE BLUE RIBBON OF THE TURF.

A PRELIMINARY CANTER.

I.

THE Derby, in name at least, is still the greatest racing event of the English turf; it is not, however, our oldest existing race, the St. Leger having been instituted in the year 1776. The Oaks also takes precedence of the 'Blue Ribbon,' being a year older.

It was in 1780 that the first Derby was run, the prize being won by Sir Charles Bunbury, the name of the victorious horse being Diomed; the same gentleman was so fortunate as to win again in the year 1801, with his mare Eleanor, which also won the Oaks, now sometimes fancifully designated 'the Garter of the Turf.' Much that has been written about the earlier races for the Derby is indebted chiefly to the imagination of the writers, facts being scarce.

The race was named after the Earl of Derby, but on the earlier occasions of its recurrence attracted almost no attention, its decision eliciting only a bare record in such newspapers of the period as

condescended to chronicle events of the turf: nor for many years was it otherwise, the Derby not obtaining, in common with other races, more than a bald record.

Seeing that more than a century has passed away since the race was instituted, it would be most interesting to know the year in which any person now living first saw the Derby run for. Is it possible, for instance, that anyone is still living who saw the Duke of Grafton's Whalebone win the 'Blue Ribbon' in 1810? If so, that person, who will now have passed the age of seventy-nine years, must have been a mere child, but it is not of course impossible that some octogenarian may to-day be alive who witnessed the race for the Derby of the year named. Selecting the races of later years, the chances of some of those having been witnessed by persons now living are much increased. In the year in which the battle of Waterloo was fought (1815), Whisker won the Derby. Seventy-five years have elapsed since that memorable battle took place, but not long ago paragraphs were going the round of the press about 'Waterloo veterans' being still in life, and so it may well be that persons are yet among us who witnessed some Derby victories of the years beginning, say, with 1825. It would be of exceeding interest to find out and know something about the person or persons now living who were present to see the Derby run, say, even sixty years since.

When the great race was instituted newspapers were not numerous, and 'news' was much scarcer than to-day, not much, apparently, being 'made' of such passing events as were thought worthy of the brief chronicles

of the time; racing news, in particular, being recorded—when it was recorded—in the baldest manner, probably for the best of all reasons, namely, that few cared for it, the racing public of the period not being numerous. Many years elapsed, therefore, before the Derby came to be looked upon as something in the nature of a national event, or till it assumed the phase under which it is now so well known, of a great social function, interesting to hundreds of thousands, the result of the race being telegraphed on its decision, without a moment's delay, to the uttermost ends of the earth!

It was not till *Bell's Life in London* began to be published that people came to single out the race for the Derby, and make so much of it. After the advent of that newspaper, for many years the leading authority on matters of sport in the United Kingdom, 'the Derby' became a household word, and annually grew in favour, till it attained the importance of a national event; but the exact date at which 'The Derby' became the much-observed public festival which it undoubtedly is at the present day, and has been for about two generations past, cannot be given with any degree of certainty. Nor does it avail to speculate on the subject—any ancient onlooker of the spectacle who can be interviewed has only one reply when his opinion is asked: he says, 'It was always so,' but, like 'Topsy,' the Derby has 'growed,' until it has reached its present dimensions.

In another part of this work it is shown how the race, as a race, has expanded in the matter of entries and competitors, from its first small beginnings till now, when to be entered for a struggle timed to take

place two years afterwards confers a distinct value on a horse, which neither its birth nor its 'form' can do.

'What is the use of purchasing such an animal?' has been said; 'it is not entered in any of the classic races. I should not be able to run it either for the Derby or St. Leger.'

It is difficult now to find persons who were at Epsom sixty years since. When found—there cannot be very many of them living—they give solemn assurance that 'it was always so,' that there were always similar vast crowds of spectators, and the same irrepressible excitement as 'they' came round the corner. 'I saw Priam win, sir,' said an old stableman to the writer; 'there was a great big crowd, and it was a most exciting affair. The people seemed to be all raving mad as the field was a-coming in, they shouted so terrible hard; there were thousands upon thousands on the Downs, and scores of pigeons went up in the air half a minute after the race.'

Such statements must, however, be taken with due allowance for exaggeration as well as decay of memory. In the year 1830, when Priam won, there would not probably be tens present on the Downs at Epsom for the hundreds of to-day. No means of transporting thither such crowds as now witness the race could, in the days of Priam, be called into requisition. It being now more than fifty-nine years since the date of Priam's victory, it is open to question if there will be even one person out of every two hundred alive this day who would be on Epsom Downs on that occasion. Assuming that thirty thousand people assembled to witness the great racing drama of 1830, less than two hundred of that

number will now be living, if, indeed, there be so many. And the roll-call of those who were eye-witnesses of any previous struggle for the 'Blue Ribbon of the Turf' must be meagre indeed, although every now and again the newspapers of the day contain allusions to persons who saw 'such and such a Derby,' naming a far-back race. In Bluegown's year (1868), the author of this work conversed with a person who had seen Pan, Pope, and Whalebone win, which victories took place in 1808, 1809, and 1810 respectively. The person in question was then travelling with his parents, who were members of a troupe of strolling players, and at the time he was about seven years of age. There seemed to be no reason to doubt his story. On one of the occasions the then Duke of Grafton, who came to the theatre, somewhere in the neighbourhood, gave every member of the strolling company a half-sovereign.

II.

The great race and its surroundings have been written about from every possible point of view. All that can be seen on the road to Epsom Downs has been many a time related in graphic language. The 'tramp' overtaken on the road by the zealous reporter has been interviewed in the interests of his paper, while the 'lovely costumes' of the occupants of the luxurious carriages careering to the scene of sport have been painted in the brightest of colours by ready penholders. The scenes at the railway-stations before and after the race have annually made work for the

pens of 'special correspondents,' and if all tales be true, some of these slaves of the pen have been clever enough to describe the scenes without seeing them. Most London and provincial pressmen have at one time or another 'done the Derby.' It is an open secret, indeed, that not a few of the men who have been or are eminent in literature—poets as well as writers of prose—have used their pens in writing a sketch of the Derby Day.

Journals which are specially devoted to our national sports and pastimes make a point of giving long descriptions of the race and its surroundings. But the writings of the period lack the 'go' of olden times; the 'Sunday gallops' no longer take place; the public, in fact, do not want them. Times have changed in these respects. The 'form' of almost every horse that is to compete is known to an ounce, having been discounted by its two-year-old running, whilst the touts and prophets of the period keep up for the benefit of all concerned a perpetual current of information as to what is being done on the various training-grounds. Still, the old story is well continued: incidents of the most varied kind crop up for the benefit of the industrious reporters; casualties are ever occurring: it must be so whenever and wherever a hundred thousand people gather together. There is the Derby dog and the Derby suicide; there are also the Derby pickpockets and the Derby welshers to write about, and, although the glories of the road have so far faded, and the abundant chaff and horse-play which were at one time incidental to the journey have been toned down, something smart and spicay can

yet be worked up about the conveyance by rail, the imaginative powers of some writers in this line of business not having become impaired by constantly working the same mine of thought. A well-known London editor preferred, he said, the 'copy' of Mr. Blossom, because, being a work of the imagination, it contained sayings and doings of the Derby Day that gave pleasure to the readers of his paper far beyond what they would have appreciated had the narrative been one of real facts and occurrences, no matter how sensational.

The social aspects of the Derby, which has been characterized as one vast picnic, have no doubt been so largely drawn upon by those whose duty it is to describe them as to be pretty well used up; but when the people of the period, their sayings and their doings, fail to afford pabulum to the penny-a-liner, the historic bearings of the race can be called into play—the reader can be reminded that in the year when the first Derby was run (1780) King George III. was on the throne, whilst Lord North was his Prime Minister as well as his Chancellor of the Exchequer. A feature of the first year of the race can also be recalled—the Gordon Riots—and the great facts that London at that time was without gas, and that neither telegraph-wire nor telephone, which are now called into such requisition on the Derby Day, had been thought of, can be made to yield some capital to the Derby describer. That there were no steamboats and no railways, no scheme of universal penny postage, and that a hundred other things which have since come to pass, and which cannot now be done without, were

lacking in the year 1780, can all be utilized to adorn the necessary article on the Derby, which might also embrace the social changes that have occurred in the course of a hundred years.

The popularity of the Derby as a sight for the people, as has been indicated, was of slow growth. The century was advancing before it began to attract the attention of non-racing persons, and when it had to some extent obtained the notice of the mob, it was preached against and denounced as a scene of sinfulness, the crowd gazing on the race being stigmatized as a gathering of unmitigated blackguards. Not till many years after the race had been established did thirty thousand persons gather on the Downs of Epsom to witness the exciting struggle for the 'Blue Ribbon of the Turf.' Now five times that number, it is said, assemble to witness the Derby, and the 'House' adjourns for the occasion. The visit of her Majesty and 'Prince Albert the Good' to Epsom on the Derby Day gave a fillip to the attendance in future years. The Queen having set the example, tens of thousands of her loyal subjects followed in her wake. Persons who had previously thought 'the Derby' to be a very vulgar institution, after her Majesty's patronage saw it in a different light, and followed up the royal visit with great assiduity, some even of the 'utterly respectable' snatching a fearful joy in beholding the mighty assemblage of Epsom Downs. As the various lines of railways were constructed, additional tens of thousands were borne to the race-course, and from about 1840 the annual attendance began to be largely augmented. The cheap newspaper movement gave the

race its next fillip, the conductors of the penny papers devoting themselves to the event; and as these publications soon attained a large circulation, compared with the old-style journals, the Derby was brought home to still additional thousands. The cheap press for some years revelled in the fun, frolic and fraud incidental to the great event. No diminution has taken place in the crowd—every year finds a greater number of persons at Epsom than ever assembled before, and year after year we hear the same rending shout of ‘They’re off!’ or ‘The favourite’s beat!’ There are the same passions and excitements connected with the Derby of to-day as with the struggle of fifty years ago; the vast crowds of faces on the numerous stands still turn with one accord to welcome the equine combatants as they stream round Tattenham Corner; the mad career of the horses as they gallop to the winning-post is still watched with breathless attention for a moment or two by most of the crowd. The race scarcely takes three minutes, and during the last thirty seconds of that period the excitement to some of the spectators is of the intensest description, even though they may not have risked half-a-crown on the result. Others who have gambled heavily on the race, and have thousands at stake, may well be excused for feeling anxious, although there are many who can win or lose large sums with the greatest equanimity. Still, it is a relief to all when the race is won and the shouting is over, and when those most interested know the best or the worst of the event.

One feature of the changing years which marks the Derby, and indeed all other races, is the celerity with

which the result is now made known all over the world. It is the work of moments. No sooner is the number of the winning horse displayed on the signal-board than the electric flash conveys to London the anxiously-waited-for intelligence ; if the race has been won without doubt, the news will be in London, and perhaps in Manchester or Birmingham, and many other places as well, in a moment or two. By a dexterous motion a telegraph-clerk can communicate with a sporting chum at Edinburgh or Glasgow, and that chum can speedily find ways and means to convey the news to friends long—that is, a minute or two—before any message can be delivered. A few years ago the name of the Derby winner was known in a small provincial town in Scotland within a period of seven minutes of the race being run ; and in Edinburgh, in some years, the result has been talked of on the streets within nine minutes after the race has been decided. In Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, and other towns, editions of the evening papers are issued on Derby Day often within ten minutes after the struggle has taken place. The result of the Derby is known in Paris almost as soon as it is in London. That the name of the winner is wired to America and India, and known in Bombay and New York with great celerity, is a matter of annually recurring gossip. The ‘Iropertow,’ that denoted the first three in the American Year, was in the New York clubs a few minutes after the event. The word quoted gave in abbreviated form the names of the first three which passed the post—Iroquois, Peregrine, and Town Moor.

III.

The race for the Derby, as all interested in it know, takes place on the Downs of Epsom. The origin of horse-racing at this once fashionable resort cannot be determined by a date: some say that the sport began there in the reign of James I., who on various occasions resided at 'The Waters' for the benefit of his health, and also to enjoy the gay society which assembled at that resort. The King dwelt in the Palace of Nonsuch, and passed a portion of his time in hunting and other pastimes in which the 'noble animal' plays a part, the probability being that 'horse matches' were frequently got up for his entertainment.

Evidence is in existence to show that races were run on Banstead Downs as early as 1648, during the latter part of the reign of Charles I. At all events, there is to be found in the literature of the period various references to the pastime. Pepys, for instance, laments his inability to be present at a Derby of his day. In his diary for September 11th, 1660, he says: 'The Duke of York did go to-day by break of day to the Downs;' and on May 27th, 1663, he records: 'This day there was a great thronging to Banstead Downs, upon a great horse-race and foot-race. I am sorry I could not go thither.' Another entry referring to racing is dated July 25th of the same year; it is the following: 'Having intended this day to go to Banstead Downs to see a famous race, I sent Will to get himself ready to go with me; but I hear it is put off, because the Lords do sit in Parliament to-day.' In 'Baile's Register' there is a notice of racing on the 2nd, 3rd,

and 6th of May, 1727, when a Give-and-Take Plate of 60 guineas, a plate of 40 guineas, and a gold cup value 40 guineas, were all run for. In the following year a race for a plate of 30 guineas for horses that never ran before was won by the Duke of Hamilton's Costly. No other event is recorded till 1732, when two races took place on May 9th and 13th respectively—both purses for 30 guineas. From the date of 1730 racing was continued annually at Epsom, and carried on with regularity.

In those times, both at Epsom and elsewhere, the day's racing was always interrupted by dinner. Sport began at 11 o'clock; and as soon as a couple of heats had been decided, the company adjourned from the racecourse to the town, where dinners were served, after which racing was resumed in the afternoon for an hour or two.

The social customs which began in those early racing days were kept up for more than a century. In 1824 Mr. Apperly ('Nimrod') in alluding to the dining customs, says: 'Chester, however, as a convivial meeting is not what Chester was. The chilling stream of refinement has passed over every corner of the empire; and neither a Welsh nor Cheshire squire can now be so vulgar as to be seen on a racecourse after he has had his dinner. The two o'clock ordinaries, formerly so well attended, and where so much mirth and good fellowship prevailed, are all knocked on the head, and private parties substituted in their room. The office of steward appears almost a sinecure, and, for my own part, I never knew who they were till the races were almost over; instead of, as in former days, having

drunk their health every day in the week with "three times three."

In 1730 the following very curt description of the Epsom course appears in 'Magna Britannia': 'On the Downs is a four-mile course for horse-races, from N.E. to S.W., which is much frequented.' After the date mentioned the contests brought off at Epsom continued to increase in importance. In 1736 five days' racing took place at intervals, viz.: on May 3rd, 5th, 8th, 20th, and 22nd. In 1746, ten years afterwards, there was run on May 5th his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's Plate of 50 guineas; on May 6th £50 was given for a four-year-old race; on the 7th a plate of £50; on the 9th £50; on the 10th £50. The total sum run for in 1756, at Epsom, was £200, divided into four sums of £50. In 1766 there were five races of £50 each decided at Epsom. In May, 1766, there were again four days' racing. In an October meeting which had been instituted that year the following incident is chronicled: 'A curious accident befell the jockey who rode the winner of the Sweepstakes. Just before he came in at the winning-post, being crossed by a gentleman on horseback, the rider was thrown, but his leg hanging in the stirrup, the horse, of course, carried his weight in, and won miraculously, without hurting his rider.'

More than a hundred years ago (1782) two meetings were held at Epsom, one in May and one in October. The following is the rubric of the races run in that year, which concludes all that need be said about Epsom.

May 8th: The Noblemen and Gentlemen's Purse of

£50, for five-year-olds, 8 st., six-year-olds, 8 st. 9 lb., and aged, 9 st., mares and fillies allowed 3 lb.; for all the plates, four-mile heats.

9th: The Derby Stakes of 50 guineas each, h. ft. for three-year-olds, colts 8 st., and fillies 7 st. 11 lb.; the last mile. The owner of the second horse received 100 guineas out of the stakes.

The Ladies' Plate of £50 for four-year-olds, 8 st. 7 lb.; two-mile heats.

10th: The Oaks Stakes of 50 guineas each, 40 guineas forfeit, for three-year-old fillies, 8 st. 4 lb. The owner of the second filly received 100 guineas out of the stakes. The last mile and a half.

Lord Egremont's f. by Herod out of Maiden, 8 st., beat Mr. Parker's Reptile, 7 st. 13 lb.; last mile, 100 guineas.

Mr. Douglas's Catch, 7 st. 11 lb., beat Lord Foley's Lausus, 8 st. 2 lb.; last mile, 50 guineas.

The Noblemen and Gentlemen's Purse of £50; four-mile heats.

11th: The Town Purse of £50; two-mile heats.

A Sweepstakes of 10 guineas each for three-year-olds, colts 8 st., and fillies 7 st. 12 lb.; the last mile.

October 24th: £50 for four-year-olds; three-mile heats.

25th: The Ladies' Plate of £50, for three-year-olds; two-mile heats.

26th: The Town Plate of £50; two-mile heats.

The chief seats of racing at the present time, in so far as the attendance of the public is concerned, are undoubtedly Epsom, Manchester, and Ascot, as also Goodwood and Sandown Park. At Liverpool and

Gosforth (Newcastle-on-Tyne) immense masses of people assemble to witness certain races, more especially the Liverpool Grand National Steeplechase and the Northumberland Plate, which has been called the 'Pitmen's Derby.' But it is not necessary that every seat of racing sport should be described or referred to in this work; two or three places will be quite sufficient to represent the whole: Epsom, as being an outlet for the immense population of the great Metropolis; Ascot, for the excellence of its sport, and the rich nature of its prizes; Goodwood, as a picture of society enjoying a grand picnic; and Manchester, as the largest gate-money meeting in connection with the sport of horse-racing in Great Britain.

The racing at Epsom has, fortunately for those having the greatest pecuniary interest in the sport, become endowed with the great centrepiece of 'the Derby' to attract all the world to the Downs. Lord Palmerston spoke of the races at Epsom as our 'Isthmian games,' although a crown of parsley would be esteemed a very poor reward by the man who won the big race—which has been felicitously named the 'Blue Ribbon of the Turf,' and is a prize which is longed for by every man who plays a part on the turf.

After the year 1820 the Derby became of note; previous to that year its popularity had been of slow growth, but during the fifty years between 1820 and 1870 its importance had increased so largely as to perceptibly diminish the vast population of London on the day on which the race was run. It gives occasion for what may be termed a 'gigantic' holiday for the lower and middle classes of the Modern Babylon and

its neighbourhood. Some writers tell us that the glories of the Derby are beginning to wane, and that in a few years it will be shorn of its interest. It may be so, but in the meantime the evidence is very much the other way. A few years ago the value of the Derby stake exceeded seven thousand pounds. Nor has the attendance of the public diminished on the great holiday. In 1885 it was said to be the best on record, and the takings at the Grand Stand entrance were plethoric. Certainly the Derby may, in time, lose some of the interest which attaches to it, seeing that there are now so many good meetings held in the immediate vicinity of the great city; but there will still remain an immense number of thousands who will never see any other races than those which take place on the Derby Day.

FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE RACE FOR THE 'BLUE RIBBON.'

I.

It is not a little surprising that a period of over a hundred years should have been allowed to elapse without those who for so long a time have derived a handsome profit from the running of the Derby being peremptorily called upon to augment the stakes. Year after year owners have generously continued to enter, at considerable cost to themselves, from one to ten horses. The purse so obtained has, of course, at times been pretty well filled, as on several occasions the sum run for has amounted to £6,000, and even as much as £7,000, not one penny of which was provided by the Grand Stand Company. But, impelled no doubt by the force of public opinion, the authorities of Epsom have so far accommodated themselves to the spirit of the times as to have ventured on a new departure in respect of the monetary and other conditions which shall in future govern the great race. The new rules come into operation this year (1890); and what has been conceded may be gathered from the following copy of the terms on which it is to be run :

'Epsom, 1890—Wednesday: The Derby Stakes of

5,000 sovs. for the winner, 500 sovs. for the nominator of the winner, 300 sovs. for the owner of the second, and 200 sovs. for the owner of the third. Colts 9 st., fillies 8 st. 9 lb., then three-year-olds; by subscription of 50 sovs. each; half forfeit if declared by the first Tuesday in January, 1890, and 10 sovs. only if declared by the first Tuesday in January, 1889; any surplus to be paid to the winner. About a mile and a half, starting at the high-level starting-post. 237 subscribers; closed July 10th, 1888.'

These new conditions are certainly an improvement on those which up till this time have governed the finance of the Derby. As all who take an interest in the sport of horse-racing are aware, the terms on which, for many years, horses have been entered for the Derby are £25, an additional sum of that amount having to be paid by those sportsmen who order their horses to be run in the race. At first the amounts paid were fixed at guineas, but in 1825 sovereigns were substituted. Many years passed away before the Derby became of much value. Not till the year 1831, when Spaniel won, did the entries for the race exceed 100 horses, and sixteen more years elapsed before they numbered 200, whilst it was not till 1827 that as many as twenty horses came to the starting-post.

Up till 1880 owners never seemed to think they should do other than follow their predecessors, and enter their horses on the terms prescribed. True, an occasional grumble was heard about the avariciousness of the Epsom authorities; but it was not till the offer of much higher stakes at other meetings began to be

made that proposals for the financial reform of the Derby were ventilated; and with the view of 'improving' the conditions, and making the race a 'big thing,' some remarkable suggestions found their way into print.

It was at one time suggested, for instance, that the Jockey Club should be called upon to take action, and determine the amount of a bonus which ought to be added to the two great Epsom races, or to say how they ought to be so remodelled as to admit of the owners of horses obtaining something more than their own money from a company which was reputed to be making £20,000 or £30,000 per annum by means of the Derby and Oaks being run over ground which they had leased from the lord of the manor.

In view of contingencies, a change of venue was even proposed. One writer on the subject enunciated the following views: 'The Derby is a name that is still potent to conjure with. This is not, however, a sentimental age, and the rose might, as Shakespeare has suggested, smell as sweetly as it now does, even if its name were to be changed; and even so the "Derby" might flourish if it were not run at Epsom, and the funds derived from the various sources of revenue were devoted to other uses than the enrichment of the persons who own the Grand Stand and lease the race-course. Moreover, it is beginning to be asked if any particular person or body of persons have "the right" to take nominations for the two classic races run at Epsom; and if so, from whom that right is derived?

'The race, as is well known, was instituted in the year 1780, and named in honour of the Lord Derby

of that time. It would lead, probably, to curious revelations to know its history in the aspect of the question just asked, namely, Is the title of "the Derby Stakes" held by patent? if so, from whom? or is it copyright? if so, where can the register be seen? and how came the patent, or copyright, to be vested in the company which at present "bosses" the race? Why should the gentlemen of England subscribe a matter of £10,000 per annum to be competed for on Epsom Downs, in order that the attraction so caused may enrich the proprietors of the Grand Stand? They might as easily devote the money to some other purpose, or, as has been more than once suggested, run the race which they maintain elsewhere; and probably, at no distant date, that may be done. Those interested—namely, the owners of the horses entered for the race—are surely entitled to dispense their patronage in any mode they please; and were the Derby to be put up to auction, and the Oaks along with it, some enterprising race-course company might far outbid the present holders of the monopoly. This idea may be scouted as Utopian, but more unlikely things have happened before now.

'No figures representing the receipts of the two race-meetings held at Epsom are ever published, so far as making them known to the general public is concerned; but those familiar with racing finance have computed that in the course of the six days occupied by meetings at Epsom a sum of over £50,000 will be bagged in name of admission-fees and rents of many kinds. A well-known writer commenting recently on the financial aspects of the Derby and Oaks, stated

that the receipts of the Grand Stand amount to many thousand pounds, and increase year by year. Shares are occasionally offered for sale, and bring big prices, which points, of course, in the direction of very liberal dividends.'

II.

In the absence of authentic information, the early history of the Derby, as regards its finance, can only form matter for speculation. When first the race was run, its surroundings were of the most primitive kind, and at that period no pre-visions of its future celebrity as what may be termed a 'national event' had been indulged in, nor, in all probability, would the lord of the manor of that day have the least idea that in the course of time the ground on which the race took place would be worth a thousand pounds per annum; nor could it then have occurred to any person that before sixty years would elapse there would be required a Grand Stand of large dimensions, and many smaller erections of a similar kind, to accommodate the tens of thousands who annually journey to Epsom to gaze on the great struggle for the 'Blue Ribbon of the Turf.'

Certain particulars regarding the erection of the Stand have, it is right to say, been made public. It was erected in 1829-30, at a cost of about £14,000, the capital required being raised without any difficulty in shares of £20, of which 1,000 were issued. In Mr. Brayley's 'History of Surrey,' it is stated that the

erection of the Stand 'had its origin in an *artful speculation* devised by a small horde of questionable characters ; and it was not before great trouble and expense had been incurred that they were excluded from the management.' A lawyer's bill was incurred amounting to £557.

The Grand Stand was built from a set of plans drawn by Mr. William Trendall, and, in order to get rid of the 'questionable characters' referred to, a new committee of management was formed, and an additional sum of money was authorized to be raised. This was done : a mortgage of £5,000 being effected on the property, and two bonds of £2,500 each were granted on annuity at 70 per cent., one of which was redeemed in 1836, partly by the creation of forty-nine new shares, carrying interest at 5 per cent., the value of which was assessed some years since at £75 each. The rent at one time paid for a considerable portion of the race-course was at the rate of £300 per annum, which was deemed inadequate by Mr. Studd, who had (1868) become proprietor of the Manor of Walton. That gentleman proposed a rent to be fixed at the rate of £1,000 per annum, extending over a twenty-one years' lease. Ultimately, however, the course was so altered as to avoid Mr. Studd's portion of the heath. When the Derby was instituted, the course to be run over was only a mile in length ; now, as is well known, it is half a mile longer.

With reference to the Grand Stand and its appurtenances, it is related that it was a Mr. Charles Bluck, from Doncaster, who originated the building of it, having proposed to the manorial court at Epsom to

lease, for a period of sixty-one years, an acre of ground on which to build it. Ultimately, by agreement with the lord of the manor, the period of tenancy was extended to ninety years, and the document was signed on the 27th of November, 1828, the annual rent being fixed at £80. That lease will, of course, terminate in the year 1918. The stand has been an immense success, and may be said to have proved a gold-mine to its proprietors. 'The receipts of the Grand Stand,' says a popular writer, 'increase year by year. The charge is now two guineas for the four days, or one guinea for the Derby Day or the Oaks Day; and the paddock, admission to which some years ago was only a shilling, now fills well at half a guinea.'

Every year the public patronage accorded to the Grand and parasitic stands, to the paddocks and other enclosures, increases at a wonderful rate. For refreshments the demand is incessant, and the profit derived from this part of the business must be very large. No two persons will be found to agree as to the numbers who crowd to Epsom Downs to witness the Derby, but various estimates have been made, ranging from 70,000 to a quarter of a million. If, however, 100,000 persons are present, and each, striking an average, expends half a sovereign in railway fares and refreshments, that of itself totals up to a sum of £50,000 for the day's outing!

One of our ablest and most informed writers on horse-racing and the economy of the turf, whilst advocating, some years since, that something should be done by way of augmenting the stakes of the Derby

and Oaks, said: 'There is not a better paying property in the country than Epsom Grand Stand, and it will pay still more now that there is to be an autumn meeting. The Stand has recently been improved at a cost of £12,000, and of this sum not less than £7,000 has already been got back. For the new club no less than 700 members have already been elected, the entrance fee being five guineas, and the annual subscription five guineas.' Writing of the Epsom Grand Stand Company in another communication, the same gentleman says: 'Despite its wealth, it is the most niggardly racing corporation in the kingdom, and not only do they not give one shilling to the Derby or Oaks, but not so long ago they had the impudence to make the winner of these races pay the salary of the judge and the police expenses for keeping the course, and also £50 for champagne!'

III.

The different plans promulgated from time to time for the improvement of the Derby may now be briefly alluded to.

Mr. John Porter, of Kingsclere, proposed to enhance the value of the race in the following fashion: 'The Derby for more than a hundred years has been the race for which all nations have striven, and if we are to maintain its prestige something substantial must be done by the Epsom authorities. This is what I would suggest to them—that, to make the Derby of the future still the greatest race in the world, they should

actually give in cash £5,000, and increase the entrance-fee from £50, half-forfeit, to £100, half-forfeit. We may reasonably suppose that this liberal donation would increase the number of entries, but even supposing that they should remain the same as at present (about 200), and that there are, say, twenty runners, this gives £2,000 subscribed by the runners, £9,000 in forfeits, with the £5,000 added by the executive, and would make a total of £16,000, which should indeed "eclipse" the value of any other race. Considering the number who attended to see the great race at Sandown under most depressing circumstances, it is almost impossible to grasp the magnitude of the assemblage we should see on Epsom Downs (the scene of so many glorious contests) to witness the Derby under these new and inspiring conditions.'

A recent writer on the financial aspects of the Derby thus ventilates his ideas of how matters ought to be adjusted between those who receive the nominations and those who make them: 'Were owners of Derby horses to increase their subscriptions, in order to make the race a startling one as to amount, and thereby cause a sensation; and were such a multitude to be attracted to the Epsom enclosures (they have been lately enlarged) as to make a gate worth £25,000, would it be too much to ask that half, or at least a third, of the sum that remained after expenses were deducted should be divided among the first three horses, and particularly that a handsome bonus should be awarded to the owner of the animal which obtains the second place? It is not unreasonable to calculate that by such means a sum of from £8,000

to £10,000 might be added to the subscriptions, of which £2,000 might be given to the owner of the horse which the judge placed second, and half as much to the owner of the other placed horse. The Oaks could be dealt with on a similar plan.'

The following scheme was propounded some years since by the present writer, and may have had some slight influence in shaping the conditions under which the race is now run. 'A simple mode of augmenting the stakes would be to allow the owner of the winner to draw the whole amount subscribed, and that £1,000 and £500 respectively should be given to the owners of the horses which run second and third in the Derby and Oaks; in which case the Epsom authorities would have to find £3,000, which they could well afford, and have plenty left over for dividends to Grand Stand shareholders. In this way £450 would be added to the sum given to the winning horse, that being the amount divided at present between the second and third—namely, £300 and £150. On behalf of those who would be more exacting in the matter of more *really added* money, it may be suggested that the chief stake should in every race be augmented to even money—that is, if the subscriptions (say at present rates) did not reach £5,000, £6,000, or £7,000, as the case might be, they should be supplemented in the way suggested. To prevent misunderstanding, here is an example: Take the Derby won by St. Blaise in 1883; the sum came to £5,150: by the plan of the winner getting all the subscriptions, St. Blaise would have received the sum of £5,600, to be increased to

£6,000. Were the Epsom Summer Meeting to be made a gate-money meeting, then, in the event of the two races being still run there, a bonus of at least £7,000 should be given to them, to be allocated as the stewards, or, better still, the subscribers to the race, might determine.'

One more of the many schemes promulgated for the benefit of Derby nominators may be noticed, on account of its having been devised by 'Borderer,' an excellent and all-round writer on our national sports and pastimes. This gentleman's plan was unfortunately devised, it appears to the writer, more for the benefit of the Grand Stand shareholders than those who provide the horses. Briefly, 'Borderer' proposed to raise the money in the following fashion—namely, a total sum of £135 to be paid for each foal entered, and £150 for each yearling. The conditions: 'To close for foals of 1887 on the first Tuesday in July, 1887, entrance 10 sovs.; to close for yearlings on the third Tuesday in September, 1888, entrance 25 sovs. Horses not struck out of the race on or before the last Tuesday in March, 1890, to pay a further sum of 50 sovs.; an additional charge of 50 sovs. to be made for starters.' The sum obtained under these conditions (£12,000) 'Borderer' proposed to allocate as follows:

The winner to receive	-	-	£10,000
Breeder of the winner	-	-	500
Second horse	-	-	1,000
Breeder of the second horse	-		200
Breeder of the third horse	-		100

It is somewhat remarkable that in nearly all the schemes promulgated on behalf of the Derby and Oaks, the Epsom authorities receive the greatest degree of consideration; all that is accorded to owners is the questionable privilege of paying a much larger sum in the shape of entry money! All, for instance, that 'Borderer's' scheme leads up to is just a bigger gamble to be indulged in by the owners of the animals entered; whilst what is really wanted is that those who derive such a handsome return from these attractive races should not 'bag' more money, but should hand over a percentage of their gains to the men who provide the horses. If the writer is not misinformed, it has long been a rule in all great 'matches' for the pedestrians engaged, or those who 'manage' them, to receive a considerable share of the gate-money—and why not? And why should it not likewise be so in the case of horse-racing? Suppose, by way of argument, that the owners of, say, the best score of race-horses at present in existence were to agree to run them in a sweepstakes of £1,000 per horse at handicap weights, would these gentlemen not be entitled to say to the authorities of Sandown, Epsom, or Kempton Park, 'What sum will you give us if we decide this great race on your course?' Such an event might prove an enormous 'draw,' and yield a wonderful 'gate.' It would only be reasonable, therefore, that the directors of whatever course was selected should present the promoters of the race with a percentage of the drawings. Co-operation is in vogue at present; why, then, should not sportsmen who own valuable race-horses utilize them in the manner in-

dicated, both in handicaps, and in relation to the Derby, Oaks, and St. Leger, by co-operating to provide a big race?

It should be brought home to those chiefly interested that the persons who derive so great a profit from the Derby and Oaks should be compelled to disgorge a larger portion of it than they seem inclined to those who in reality provide the sport—namely, the ladies and gentlemen who run their horses, some of which have cost thousands of pounds to purchase, and hundreds of pounds to maintain. Who would constitute himself an advocate for leviathan stakes, the gains of which go to enrich mere speculators, who in all probability have no soul for sport, or, at any rate, for the sport of kings? If an enormous stake were to be formulated, the excitement which would attend its decision, if decided so near London as Epsom, would probably be very great.

Many of the facts and figures pertaining to the Derby are of exceeding interest. It will be seen from the following tables that during the first ten years of the race the total stake run for never exceeded 1,250 guineas (calculating the amount from the number of entries and runners); whilst in the ten years ending with 1884, the average value of the stakes, as ascertained in the mode indicated, was £5,655. The entry in 1879 is the largest that has been recorded, exceeding that of Lord Lyon's year by four, and resulting in the biggest return for a Derby yet known. The average of the entries divides into 228 horses per annum, and the running horses average seventeen per annum over the ten years indicated. As regards the

number of entries, a glance at once shows that for the race of 1885 121 subscribers entered 190 horses; in the following year 202 horses were named by 120 ladies and gentlemen. For the 'Blue Ribbon' of 1887, 112 persons entered 190 animals; for the race of 1888 there were ninety different nominators, who named 163 horses. In 1889 the figures were 92 subscribers and 171 horses. Many gentlemen name a considerable number of their colts in each year; thirteen animals have sometimes been entered by some of England's best sportsmen, whilst entries of from four to nine are common. When it is stated that the colts which compete in the Derby when they are of the age of three years have to be entered for the race while they are 'yearlings,' it will be at once obvious, even to persons who are not familiar with the economy of the turf, that many of the animals named never compete. Some die long before the day, others do not stand the strain of hard work which is absolutely necessary for their preparation, and thus it comes about that perhaps not more than twelve or fifteen are sent to the starting-place on the eventful Wednesday on which the great race falls to be run. It is obvious from what has been said or indicated that, in respect of the money involved, subscribers to each succeeding Derby might just as well write the names of their horses on a piece of paper and draw them out of a hat as run them in the race, or they might meet at dinner and toss against each other for the stakes!* That, of course, would not be esteemed

* 'It was recently asked by a defender, or, rather, apologist

such a sporting event as a race is thought to be; but why the chief sportsmen of England, France, and America should combine to run their horses at a heavy cost chiefly to benefit a company which has leased a portion of the Epsom Downs is not easy to understand, seeing that they might as well do so—if not for the benefit of some public hospital or other deserving charity—for their own profit.

The following are the tables referred to :

DATE.	WINNERS.	SUB- SCRIBERS.	STARTERS.	VALUE.
				GUINEAS.
1780	Diomed	36	9	1,125
1781	Eclipse	35	15	1,250
1782	Assassin	35	13	1,200
1783	Saltram	34	6	1,000
1784	Serjeant	30	11	1,025
1785	Aimwell	29	10	970
1786	Noble	29	15	1,000
1787	Sir Peter Teazle	33	17	1,250
1788	Sir Thomas	30	11	1,025
1789	Skyscraper	30	11	1,025

Making a big jump, the fifteen years ending with 1889 show, of course, more prosperous times :

of the administration : “Of what use are the horses without a race-course ?” That is, of course, one way of putting the case. The same style of logic was made use of by a theatrical manager to a man who had written a play : “Of what value is your play if you are without a theatre in which to produce it ?” The answer given was the very obvious one : “Of what use is your theatre to you if you have no plays to occupy your stage ?” —*Manchester Sporting Chronicle.*

DATE.	WINNERS.	SUB- SCRIBERS.	STARTERS.	VALUE.
1875	Galopin	199	18	£4,900
1876	Kisber	226	15	5,575
1877	Silvio	245	17	6,050
1878	Sefton	231	22	5,825
1879	Sir Bevys	278	23	7,025
1880	Bend Or	256	19	6,375
1881	Iroquois	242	15	5,925
1882	Shotover	197	14	4,775
1883	St. Blaise	215	11	5,150
1884	Harvester and St. Gatien	189	15	4,900
1885	Melton	189	12	4,525
1886	Ormonde	199	9	4,700
1887	Merry Hampton	190	11	4,525
1888	Ayrshire	163	9	3,675
1889	Donovan	169	13	4,050

The conditions under which the race is now to be run, it will be generally admitted, are an improvement on previous arrangements, but so far as can be determined at the time of penning these remarks, they will not cost the Epsom executive so much as a shilling. The sum allocated to the second horse is unsatisfactory; if really honest racing is ever to be obtained, it will be when every animal taking part in the race is trying to win it. But in the Derby, and several other contests, where there is a big prize only for the first horse, there is always likely to be a number of non-tryers. The instructions given to riders of such animals may well be supposed to be couched in the following fashion: 'We are only going for the off-chance. If you think, when the push comes, that you can win, by all means do so; but if not, then ease your horse. We don't care about getting a place in the Derby.'

With a sum, however, of £2,000 or £1,500 for the

second, and, say £800 or more to the third horse, owners would doubtless have less hesitation in trying to get 'a shop.'

The case of the second horse in the Derby is frequently a hard one—a very hard case indeed. As the saying goes, it may just be 'beaten by the skin of its teeth,' because of a bad start, or from being cannoned against in the race, or in consequence of inferior jockeyship, or from some other cause; and many a time, as sportsmen know, the second horse is better than the horse which wins the race, therefore the petty allowance so often made to the owner of the animal which comes in second in such a race as the Derby forms a poor reward for the anxieties that have attended its career since it was entered for the famous race, for which it has very likely been specially retained and trained. Another factor in the situation may also be alluded to: the owner is sure to suffer from the form of his horse having been exposed—an animal which has run second or third in a Derby, Oaks or St. Leger, is certain to attract the attention of handicappers, and to be well 'looked after' in the weights of such events as his owner may enter it for.

Another reason why owners do not usually care to have their horses 'placed,' is the contemptible rate of odds offered by bookmakers against horses that might be backed for places—the odds laid against any horse for a 'shop' have seldom the slightest relation to the price offered for a win: the one quotation may be 50 to 1, the other 5 to 1. But when handsome allowances come to be made to the owners of

the animals which run second and third, it may be assumed that nine-tenths of the horses which face the starter will be trying, and when that becomes generally known the place-odds will certainly expand, and very properly.*

Think of the fact that for such a race as the St. Leger, the conditions bear that the owner of the second horse shall receive 200 sovs., and the third 100 sovs. out of the stakes! To some extent the claims of the owners of the second and third horses to be more liberally dealt with is being recognised in the big stake races which are becoming common. In the Lancashire Plate, for instance, the horse that follows the winner to the winning-post wins for its owner 1,000 sovs., and 500 sovs. for the nominator as well. But the disparity between the 12,000 sovs. which fall to the winner, and the 1,000 sovs. assigned to his

* The following remarks by a practical sportsman, although uttered a few years ago, are *apropos* to the argument: 'One would assuredly look with more favour on these races, and others that are sure to follow on an even larger monetary basis, were the sum of money to be given more equitably divided; as at present arranged, the competitions to which I refer are simply a benefit to one horse, or rather to its owner. Why, for instance, should Sir Bevys contribute so large a sum as £7,000 to its owner's coffers, and nothing worth speaking of be paid on account of the animal that followed it home? Assuredly the Derby, and other large stakes, require to be readjusted. It is always desirable to see big fields competing, and many of the small fields now seen would be larger were an inducement held out to those who own the horses to run them against those animals that are supposed to have the race at their mercy. Two years ago, a friend of mine who had a good horse entered for the Derby would have run him if he could have backed him for a place on reasonable terms; but the best offer he got was 7 to 2, and that for an animal that was only supposed to have a 50 to 1 chance to win.'

nominator, and the like sum allotted to the second horse, is striking. The total sum to be distributed for the race (no matter, in the meantime, how provided) is as follows :

Winner - - - -	-	12,000	sovs.
Nominator of winner	-	1,000	„
Owner of second horse	-	1,000	„
Nominator of second	-	500	„
Owner of third horse	-	300	„
Nominator of ditto -	-	200	„
		<hr/>	
		15,000	„

Some who take an interest in racing will, doubtless, be able to divide the above amount after some pet plan of their own, and there are those who, like the writer, may think that ten thousand pounds to any winner would be an ample reward. In the Newmarket Stakes of 10,000 sovs. it is proposed to give 1,000 and 500 sovs. respectively to the owners of the second and third horses. Should the race prove successful and be continued, the Jockey Club ought to re-adjust its financial features, and take into consideration the propriety of providing at least another thousand pounds to be divided between the owners of the second and third horses in the proportions (including, of course, the 1,500 sovs. already provided for) of 1,500 and 1,000 sovs. to the owners of the second and third horses. Other races might be referred to in which winners will be well cared for, whilst the horses which run second and third will be

passed over with a sop of two or three hundred ; but the examples just given will no doubt prove sufficient to draw attention to this feature of racing finance, which for so long a period has been in the nature of a blot on 'the sport of kings.' A little prophecy may here be ventured : it is that when the claims of the horses which obtain second and third places come to be fairly recognised, there will be found a much longer list of nominators.

Sentiment must find no place in an exposition of Derby finance. It may be pretty well taken for granted that those who so ably work the oracle for the benefit of shareholders and themselves are simply hard-headed men who do not care much about sentiment, and they will evidently require a good deal of persuading to make a substantial money grant to the great race ; but seeing that the contest of the present year will not take a halfpenny out of their pockets, the conditions of the race in future years will undoubtedly be watched very closely.

MEN WHO HAVE WON THE DERBY.

I.

To give a brief account of even a few of the men who have taken part in what may be called the 'making of the turf' would require a volume, but the materials for the compilation of a book of that kind are not quite at hand. Not, in fact, till the Derby had been run for a considerable number of years was much notice taken of racing men of either high or low degree; that is, in connection with their love of sport. Not till the advent of the so-called 'classic races' does *material* for detailed biographies of turf men become abundant, and, above all, reliable.

Long before that time, however, a man had appeared upon the scene who left his mark on the incidence of racing; his name was Tregonwell Frampton, and he was born in the year 1641, in the reign of Charles I. Frampton, who in his time was keeper of the running horses at Newmarket to their Majesties William III., Queen Anne, George I., and George II., died on March 12th, 1727, aged eighty-six, and lies buried in Newmarket. He has been called the 'father of the turf,' and has a distinct claim to be considered the discoverer of the capabilities of 'racing as a business.'

His memory, it must be admitted, is somewhat clouded by questionable actions. A Newmarket visitor of that time writes: 'There was Mr. Frampton, the oldest and, as they say, the cunningest jockey in England. [The word 'jockey' is here made use of in the dictionary sense.] One day he lost a thousand guineas, the next he won two thousand, and so on alternately. He made as light of throwing away £500 or £1,000 at a time as other men do of their pocket-money, and was as perfectly calm, cheerful, and unconcerned when he had lost £1,000 as when he had won £1,000.'

In the days of Frampton betting had become common; indeed, he was one of the chief instigators of that mode of speculation, and the first person in all probability who 'arranged' a race on the lines now so well known and so often adopted. Of the scenes at Newmarket in the latter days of Frampton, when horse-racing had become more of a 'business' at the chief seat of sport than it was in earlier days, the visitor already referred to says: 'I had the opportunity to see the horse-races and a great concourse of the nobility and gentry, as well from London as other parts of England; but they were all so intent, so eager, so busy upon the sharpening part of the sport, their wagers, their bets, that to me they seemed just as so many horse-coursers in Smithfield; descending the greatest of them from the high dignity and quality to the picking one another's pockets, and biting one another as much as possible, and with so much eagerness, as it might be said, they acted without respect to faith, honour, or good names.'

It was wittily said that 'sin came upon the turf

with the advent of Frampton.' At an early period he hit upon the plan of making any match that he had anything to do with a 'certainty,' so far as that could be accomplished. By means of a secretly-ridden trial, he endeavoured when it was possible to find out which was the better horse; if the animal was his own, then he backed it; if his opponent's, then he supported it, and contrived by some means to lay against his own. Of the many stories told to the disadvantage of Frampton, some are probably altogether imaginative, and others rest only on a slight foundation of fact. Whether the 'father of the turf' was really guilty of the numerous sins laid to his charge or not, there is plenty of evidence to show that he played in his time an important part on the turf. In particular he was famed for the knowledge he treasured up of the form of the running horses of the period—a necessity, no doubt, of his position as the heaviest betting man of his time. As has been stated, Frampton died in the year 1727, at the age of eighty-six. Granting that he had been, as the saying goes, 'on the turf' for a period of sixty years, he must have been familiar with the rise and progress of horse-racing. Unfortunately, the printed records of regular sport only begin in 1709, so that little is known of Frampton's numerous achievements in the racing world.

In the year 1727, the year in which he died, there was racing at Newmarket (two meetings), Whitechurch in Shropshire, Epsom, Walbasey in Cheshire, Guildford, Ipswich, Stamford, Richmond, Nottingham, Preston, Peterborough, Ascot, Hambleton, York, Leighton, Lewes, Winchester, Grantham, Oxford, Bakewell, Derby-

shire, Lincoln, Leicester, Lichfield, and Great Marlow—twenty-four places in all. In the year 1720 the ‘father of the turf’ had the following-named horses running at Newmarket: Potatoe, Highlow, Nutmeg, Hobler, Sparin Halls, Margareta, and Sorrel Filly. The last time Mr. Frampton’s name appeared on the record of races run at Newmarket was on April 10th, 1723.

Sir Charles Bunbury, who won the first race for the Derby, was called ‘father of the turf’ also, and others who promoted in its earlier stages the ‘sport of kings,’ notably some of the Kings themselves, might have had a similar title conferred upon them: why not James I. or Charles II.? Many of the princes and nobles of a far-back time helped to make horse-racing what it is to-day. It is to them, indeed, that owners owe the strains of blood that now course through the veins of modern race-horses. It is in connection with the incidence of what have been designated ‘the classic races’ that we find the men who did most for the turf in the way of expending money on their studs so as to improve the breeds of running-horses. Although in chronological order the St. Leger and Oaks take precedence of the Derby, the latter is the more popular race of the three; and included among those who have won the ‘Blue Ribbon of the Turf,’ are to be found the names of many noblemen and gentlemen who did much to promote and popularize the pastime of horse-racing.

As has been already mentioned, and as nearly all the world knows, ‘The Derby,’ and ‘The Oaks’ too, derived its name from a well-known member of the

peerage—Edward Smith Stanley, twelfth earl, born in the year 1752, and who died in the year 1834 (the eighty-second year of his age). His lordship was an honourable sportsman, who pursued the pastime of horse-racing for a period of sixty years with considerable success. During his lifetime he bred several horses which attained celebrity. Bridget, first winner of the Oaks, was his lordship's property; and the Earl again won with Hermione in 1794. Sir Peter Teazle, foaled in 1784, was a colt of the Earl's own breeding, and was successful in winning a considerable number of valuable stakes. In his fourth year, Sir Peter was reckoned the best horse of his time.

That horse became the sire of many of the famous race-horses of a hundred years ago: Sir Harry in 1798, Archduke in 1799, Ditto in 1803, and Paris in 1806, were all of them Derby winners, Sir Peter being their sire. Sir Peter was also the sire of two winners of the Oaks: Hermione and Parasite.

His lordship was an all-round sportsman, which was exemplified in his love of cock-fighting, now—and happily so—a banished sport. In the cock-pit, as on the racecourse, he was at one time invincible, with his celebrated breed of 'black-breasted reds,' with which he gained a great series of victories in the cock-pits of Preston and elsewhere. For many years his lordship was an active member of the Jockey Club, of which institution he was 'the father' at the date of his death. Lord Derby was twice married; first to Lady Jane Hamilton, sister to the then Duke of that name. The union proved unhappy; the Earl of Derby never, however, sued for a divorce, but contented himself

by suing the lady's paramour, from whom he received a large sum in name of damages. The death of the erring lady left him free to form another alliance, which resulted in raising Miss Farren—'a born lady,' she has been called—from the stage to the peerage. It proved a very happy union.

In 1793, six years after Sir Peter's victory, the Derby was won by another horse of celebrity, named Waxy, from whom probably half the winners of the great Epsom race are descended, a descendant of the curiously-named Pot-8-os. In 1809, and also in the following year, the Epsom trophy was secured by the Duke of Grafton with sons of that horse, as also in 1815; whilst in the previous year, another son of Waxy, the property of Lord Stawell, was the victor in the race. The horse had been purchased by the third Duke of Grafton, and became as a gold-mine to the family. The name of Grafton occurs eight times among the winners of the Oaks, three of the mares being the produce of Waxy.

In those days the Dukes of Grafton were men of mark on the turf, three of them possessing similar 'strokes of character.' The third Duke (born 1736, died 1811), despite the abuse lavished on him by 'that remorseless master of invective, the mysterious Junius,' was an excellent sportsman—in matters pertaining to sport, indeed, he has never been excelled—and was rewarded by great good fortune, being singularly lucky in the rearing of his race-horses. His mare Prunella was the dam of no less than eleven steeds of quality, and is said to have contributed to the Grafton exchequer a sum of over a hundred thousand guineas!

The names of most of the Duke's horses began with the letter P, no matter how they might be bred—a plan of turf nomenclature which happily has not been followed. In the year 1802, the Duke's horse Tyrant won him his first Derby, the colt being ridden by the famous Francis Buckle ; the number of horses engaged in the race being eight, out of the thirty which had been nominated. In 1809 and 1810 his Grace won two consecutive 'Blue Ribbons.' At the ripe age of seventy-six the third of the Graftons was gathered to his fathers, having done much for the improvement of the British race-horse, and leaving as a legacy a strain of blood of which breeders are particularly fond.

II.

Before going farther it may be noted that, in the first fifty years of the two great races run at Epsom, men with titles carried all before them. 'The dukes and lords of the period,' it has been said, 'were never done scoring.' The Oaks three times, and the Derby as often, fell to the name of Bedford before these races were twenty years old. Lord Grosvenor, in his day, was credited with a victory in the Oaks on six occasions, three of them being secured in consecutive years, and he thrice 'landed' the Derby as well. The number of these two races won by the ducal house of Grafton has just been stated. Thirty-two times, in

all, have Derby and Oaks fallen to Dukes. As for 'mere lords,' as Carlyle called a branch of the aristocracy, they come to the front all through the chronicle, having on forty different occasions provided the winner; whilst the noble roll of baronets has twenty-six times been credited with 'Blue Ribbon' or 'Garter.' On two or three occasions the earlier races were competed for by men of title only.

Here, for instance, is a sample of how matters used to be: in 1779 only one commoner ran a horse, and of the eleven animals which came to the post, two were the property of the then Prince of Wales, two belonged to the Duke of Bedford, two to Lord Grosvenor, one to the Duke of St. Albans, others to Lords Egremont, Barrymore, and G. H. Hastings, Mr. Lade being the commoner. In 1794, when only four ran, three of them belonged to lords, the other was owned by a Duke! Again, three years afterwards, the Derby field was entirely composed of the horses of titled owners!

The fourth Duke of Grafton, destined also to become a turf celebrity, was born in 1760, and not till Queen Victoria had been for a period of seven years on the throne did he die, having attained his eighty-fourth year. During the lifetime of his father, the fourth Duke did not become conspicuous on the turf. After succeeding to the title and estates, he continued to maintain the Grafton stud successfully, winning many of the important stakes of his period. In one year he won what was then thought an enormous sum, over twelve thousand guineas! The Derby fell to him only on one occasion, but he was half a dozen times hailed

winner of the Oaks, and five times he was fortunate enough to win the Two Thousand Guineas.

Magnificent presents are often given to successful jockeys—£1,000, and even £2,000, being occasionally bestowed on those important 'personages' for winning a Derby or great handicap. For winning two important races for the Duke of Grafton, John Day, a jockey of the period, and an artist in the saddle, was sent for by his Grace in order to be presented with a gift. John appeared hat in hand, and, making his best bow, stood before the Duke. 'John Day,' said his employer, 'I have sent for you as I am going to make you a present for your good riding; there is a twenty-pound note for you, and I hope you will not waste it, but take great care of it.' In those days a present of £20 to a jockey was esteemed a very high compliment indeed. A turf-writer, speaking, some forty years ago, of the Dukes of Grafton, says: 'A mere list of their most celebrated winners would occupy more space than we can well afford, but they are said to have netted nearly a quarter of a million sterling in public stakes. The two Dukes have been alike and equally distinguished for their extreme honour, liberality, and love of sport.'

Harking back to the beginning of the Derby, the first winner was Sir Charles Bunbury, who gained the 'Blue Ribbon' by means of his horse Diomed. Sir Charles departed this life on March 31st, 1821, at the good old age of eighty-one. Born in the year 1740, he had, before he was thirty years of age, become the owner of several race-horses; so early, indeed, as 1767,

he was well known as a sportsman of some degree of mettle. Like many other men who have devoted themselves to a life on the turf, he was afflicted with a sort of craze, which, put in so many words, was that he possessed 'the best horse in the world.' The animal in question was a horse named Bellario, a son of Brilliant, a famous racer and stallion of its day, the property of Mr. Crofts, of Norfolk, a gentleman who acted in many ways as a kind of 'coach' or mentor to Sir Charles when he first came on the turf. Bellario was started upon several occasions against the famous horse Eclipse, and although always beaten, the owner continued to believe that it was the better horse of the two. He was, in fact, a splendid judge of every person's horses but his own. Sir Charles Bunbury's successes on the turf have been characterized as 'chiefly of the small-beer kind,' and except on the three occasions on which he won the Derby, the victory of Eleanor in the Oaks, a double event, and of Smolensko in the Two Thousand Guineas, also a double event, the characterization may stand good; but to win the Derby three times is a slice of Fortune's cake of which any man might well be proud.

Sir Charles was a member of the Jockey Club, and played a part in the celebrated investigation which took place as to the running of Escape, a horse belonging to the Prince of Wales. The baronet is reputed to have behaved rather fiercely over this affair, and to have bluntly told His Royal Highness that if he continued to employ Chifney as his jockey no gentleman would start a horse to run against him. The jockey

(who narrates in his pamphlet, 'Genius Genuine,' that 'the row' was entirely of the noble baronet's own seeking) was well able to turn the arguments employed by Sir Charles against himself; he asked that the in-and-out running of some of that gentleman's own horses should be explained: 'Bellario gets beaten by a bad horse one day, and the next goes and beats a very good animal. How comes that to pass?' asked the jockey.

Sir Charles enjoys the credit, or the discredit, as some people think, of having instituted two-year-old races. In the olden time races were usually run over the long distance of four miles, the horses, as a rule, carrying from ten to twelve stone. Personally Sir Charles was a man of good means. His father, the Rev. Sir William Bunbury, was originally a clergyman, and Vicar of Mildenhall in Suffolk. That gentleman ultimately succeeded to a title and the estates of his uncle. 'H. B.,' the caricaturist, was a younger brother of Sir Charles. Horace Walpole described the productions of 'H. B.' as being the work of a second Hogarth.

The horse-racing baronet had a seat in the House of Commons, and was also at one time Secretary of Embassy in Paris. Sir Charles is known to have suffered very much from domestic troubles; his first wife was the beautiful Lady Sarah Lennox, whom he was necessitated to divorce in 1776, in consequence of her adulterous connection with Lord William Gordon.

This brief notice of Sir Charles may be wound up with the following piquant anecdote: Sir Charles's training groom, a person of the name of Cox, being

taken seriously ill about the date of the Epsom summer meeting in 1801, his friends thought it right that he should be visited by a clergyman, in order that he might receive some religious consolation before his death. When the parson arrived at Cox's house, he found that the poor man was speechless; but from the efforts he was making to address him, the good priest thought that he must have something on his mind of which he was anxious to disburden himself, whereupon he earnestly exhorted him to relieve his overburdened mind by confessing his secret, no matter what it might be. Making a terrible effort, the dying man rose up in his bed, and, with the dews of death on his forehead, said in hollow tones to the expectant clergyman: 'Depend on it, Eleanor is a d—d fine mare!' which were his last words, for no sooner had he gasped them out than he fell back dead.

As was the rule of several of his racing contemporaries, Lord Grosvenor bred his own horses, John Bull, winner of the Derby in 1792, being the sire he most esteemed, as was evidenced by the fact that six colts got by him had been named for the Derby before he died. Three times in the course of five years was Lord Grosvenor hailed winner of the 'Blue Ribbon,' whilst that noble horse has contributed as many as six to the list of Oaks winners. Born in 1731, and commencing his career on the turf at the age of twenty-two, his lordship speedily became the owner of a magnificent stud of race-horses. However, at one time he was so very poor that he would have been obliged to abandon a match by which he stood to win a very large sum of money—it was the match

between his lordship's horse Gimcrack and the Earl of Abingdon's Cardinal York. By the aid of Mr. Elwes, the notorious miser, who lent Lord Grosvenor a sum of £3,000 to make up the stakes, his horse was enabled to run the match. It is related that Elwes, on returning home from seeing the race run, scrambled over the Devil's Dyke at Newmarket to avoid paying a toll of sixpence, and nearly broke his neck in doing so. The Earl died on August 5th, 1802.

Lord Clermont, who won the Derby in 1785, died in November, 1805, at the venerable age of eighty-four, having begun his racing career in 1751. At his death he was 'father of the turf,' and was at one time, in conjunction with Lord Farnham, the possessor of a considerable stud of excellent horses. He was much abused, and was once denounced as 'a hardened veteran in every kind of iniquity.' A good story is told about his lordship and the Prince: 'On one occasion, shortly before his death, the Earl accompanied the Prince of Wales to Bagshot, and it being winter, and his lordship being at the time much indisposed, had wrapped his head in a sort of flannel hood. Thus equipped the Prince and his companion pursued their journey, the passengers remarking what an excellent young man he was thus to go out an airing with his old aunt, the Princess Amelia.'

Lord Egremont was an ardent and honest follower of the 'sport of kings.' This nobleman died in the year 1837, in the eighty-sixth year of his age, having held an enjoyable position on the turf for a period of half a century. At one time there were in his stud nearly seventy thoroughbred brood-mares,

and no single individual, perhaps, ever owned so large a stud of horses.

Among other winners of the Derby occurs the name of Lord Foley, who won the race in 1806 with Paris, a son of Sir Peter Teazle. When he began 'racing' he was possessed of an income of £18,000 a year, as also a sum in ready money of £100,000, all of which was lost by non-effective speculations on the turf. 'And no wonder,' says a sporting writer, 'seeing that he was for some years a confederate of that most inveterate of all gamblers—Charles James Fox.' From the year 1772 to 1793, when Lord Foley died, these gentlemen were partners in a numerous and excellent stud.

In 1788 the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV., was well known on the turf, winning the Derby in the year just named by means of his horse Sir Thomas, which beat ten competitors. His Royal Highness experienced a troublesome time during his connection with the turf, which began in 1784, and was carried on with great ardour for a period of two years, when from embarrassed circumstances he was compelled to relinquish racing till his debts had been settled. Upon his return to Newmarket in 1788 he once more threw himself into the delights of sporting life. In October, 1789, on the Prince being accused of complicity in a supposed falsely-run race, in which His Royal Highness's horse Escape was ridden by Samuel Chifney, one of the great horsemen of his day, he again retired. Explanations were demanded on the following day, when the same horse, ridden by the same jockey, won a race with great ease. Chifney made an affidavit, and

was also examined on the occasion by several gentlemen at the request of the Prince; whilst the stewards of the Jockey Club inquired into the case. What may be termed a 'profound sensation' arose over the affair, about which much was written, and much more was said. Chifney's pamphlet on the subject is now very rare, and it has been said of the Escape scandal that it was 'well enveloped in a crowd of lies.'

When, as George IV., after much entreaty, the Prince returned to the pursuit of his favourite pastime, he once more employed Chifney, and continued his services in connection with the royal stud. Till the day he died the King continued to take a very keen interest in racing matters. While on his death-bed one of his horses ran in the Ascot Cup, and so interested was His Majesty, that he had a messenger engaged, who was charged to come express with the result of the race. The Duke of York, the King's brother, twice won the Derby. His career on the turf was a somewhat exciting one; he was a *bon vivant* of the good old school, and left this sublunary scene deeply in debt to all who would trust him.

III.

It would prove interesting to have a list of those men who have, especially in times past, tried in vain to win the Derby—men who entered many horses and ran them in vain; some of them, as they are themselves reputed to have said, 'not even seeing the road the winner went.' A long array of names might be compiled of men who never won the Derby. The

names of Lade, Watson, and Queensberry may be cited as being among the unsuccessful. Other members of the peerage were quite as unsuccessful as 'Old Q.' The chivalric but hot-tempered Earl of Glasgow might be named, as well as Lord Palmerston and many more, some of whom, indeed, seem to have lived on with the one idea of winning the great race, but never succeeded in doing so, although in all probability they had expended thousands of pounds in the endeavour.

There is one gentleman who more than all the others deserves a prominent place among those who have aided in making the turf popular—Lord George Bentinck. He never won the Derby, but was unceasing in his endeavour to promote honest sport. Those who desire to know more about this estimable gentleman than can be told them in these pages, can gratify their curiosity by reading Mr. Disraeli's biography, in which occur these appreciative words: 'He had become the lord paramount of that strange world so difficult to sway, and which requires for its government both a strong resolve and a courtly breeding. He had them both; and though the black-leg might quail before the awful scrutiny of his piercing eye, there never was a man so scrupulously polite to his inferiors as Lord George Bentinck. The turf, too, was not merely the scene of the triumphs of his stud and betting-book. He had purified its practice and had elevated its character, and he was prouder of this achievement than of any other connected with his sporting life.'

Lord George, had he not previously disposed of his stud, would probably have won both Derby and St.

Leger with Surplice, which was sold with his other horses, and won these two races in 1848. It was the day after the victory of Surplice on Epsom Downs that he uttered that 'sort of superb groan' which has become familiar from its relation by his biographer, Lord Beaconsfield.

'You do not know what the Derby is,' he moaned out in the library of the House of Commons.

'Yes I do; it's the "Blue Ribbon of the Turf,"' was Mr. Disraeli's reply.

His lordship sold the whole of his horses in one lot to Mr. Mostyn 'for £10,000,' having previously offered them to Mr. George Payne, who gave £300 to be allowed to consider the matter for a day, and then declined. Seven days after Surplice won the St. Leger, Lord George was found lying dead on his father's estate of Welbeck. The name of Lord George Bentinck will assuredly be long honoured on the turf. As may be gathered from what has been said, Lord George was the sworn foe to turf evil-doers; he had a keen scent for all sorts of abuses, and was quick to have them exposed and reformed.

Side by side with Lord George Bentinck must be placed Admiral Rous, the law-giver of the turf, whose name was for years a terror to racing evil-doers, and who may be said to have been, from the year 1840 to the day of his death, in June, 1877, dictator on all things pertaining to horse-racing, in which capacity he has had no successor. It is said—for the Jockey Club does not make its proceedings public—that he was the means of dragging that institution out of the quagmire into which it had fallen in a financial aspect.

In a few years he had quintupled its income. Admiral Rous was in his day distinguished for the felicity of his work as a handicapper, with which he took infinite pains, watching horses that were supposed to be on 'the dodge' with an eagle eye, in order to prevent their being apportioned a false amount of weight. But in spite of his almost unceasing vigilance, the Admiral was sometimes 'done' by daring owners and trainers, and on occasion some horse would be admitted into a handicap at a stone or ten pound less weight than it ought to have carried. The Admiral never ceased to raise his voice loudly against the heavy betting, which he maintained was the curse of the turf and disgraceful to all concerned. But it was only against those who wagered big sums he fulminated; he did not object to betting on horse-racing on principle. Against men who staked £20, or even £50 or £100, nothing was said; but when he heard of persons winning tens of thousands, he used to maintain that such sums could not be won honestly, and he always asserted with great earnestness that all such ought to be 'warned off,' and in the case of such sums being won by members of the Jockey Club, that they should cease to belong to it. With regard to another pernicious practice that attends modern horse-racing—namely, the bestowal of large sums of money on jockeys for winning important races—he also protested in vigorous fashion, and with some degree of bitterness. His idea of trainers and jockeys was not a high one, and he never made pets of either; 'they should be kept in their places,' was his constant iteration when he heard of fashionable horsemen being guests at clubs and

afternoon teas. The Admiral was as strict a disciplinarian on the turf as he had been on the quarter-deck. On all matters of the turf he was in his time 'the authority'; his judgments were willingly accepted in cases of dispute, and a volume which he issued on racing law contains some curious and interesting cases.

Upon the occasion of a handsome testimonial being presented to Admiral Rous, Earl Granville, who filled the chair and who made the presentation, concluded an elegant address with the following eulogium: 'Among the men of wealth, character, and position whose patronage has done so much for the turf, our honoured guest of this evening holds a conspicuous place. He has always done his best to repress everything of a fraudulent or dishonourable nature. He has laboured to reconcile conflicting interests; and although he may have committed mistakes, as the best and greatest of human beings are liable to do, he has enjoyed the respect or affection of every class of the racing community, and I am sure there is but one feeling among all present this evening, and, indeed, among all true sportsmen throughout Great Britain, that if Admiral Rous should retire he will leave a void impossible to fill.'

IV.

There have been plenty of good men on the turf who never had the good fortune to win the Derby or take the Oaks. In the records of the St. Leger will be found names that do not occur in the annals of the Epsom races; and men who never made their mark

either on Doncaster town moor or on Epsom Downs did much for the turf, and expended both their money and their brain-power in aiding the national pastime.

Among the early winners of the Derby, the name of Denis O'Kelly must not pass without remembrance in these pages; his famous race-horse is known in the history of the turf. The well-known prophecy, 'Eclipse first; the rest nowhere,' still lives in the annals of racing. Colonel O'Kelly was in his time renowned as a breeder of horses, and was so fortunate as to win the Derby on two occasions, with descendants of his great horse—in 1781 with Young Eclipse, in 1784 with Serjeant. O'Kelly was a most fortunate man; one of his untried two-year-olds brought him the then (1775) unheard-of price of 1,000 guineas. A word or two in memory of 'Old Q' (the Duke of Queensberry) may fitly be inserted here. He was a man of the turf more than 137 years since. At the July Newmarket Meeting of 1748, when he was in his twenty-third year, he rode two of his own horses, and scored a victory on each of them. As Earl of March he was esteemed to be the best gentleman horse-rider of his time; he never tired of match-making, and rode in some of them almost as well as Dick Goodison, his own jockey, who was famous at Newmarket, and also on other race-courses. The Duke of Queensberry was a social sinner of the deepest dye, and has often been depicted in his character of the 'wicked nobleman,' whose name was 'a terror to all women.' It would not be a difficult task to fill a volume of many pages with an account of his terrible doings as a gambler and 'man of the world.' On the

turf, it is said, he always went straight; and his career on the race-course was of great length, lasting till he died, December 23rd, 1810, aged eighty-six years. Some of his achievements on horseback were wonderful, and his matches were the talk of the time; his judgments, both of horses and men, were penetrating and acute; no man was more difficult to deceive in any matter connected with the sport of horse-racing, and he became a match for all the 'legs' of the turf, many of whom tried their best to 'have' him.

Lord Egremont has been already referred to in a preceding page. In the years 1788-89 that nobleman took the 'Garter of the Turf,' by the aid of his fillies Nightshade and Tag; in 1795 he won the same race with Platino, in 1800 with Ephemera, and again in 1820 with Carolina. His Derby victors were: Assassin in 1782, Hannibal in 1803, Cardinal Beaufort in the following year, Election in 1807, and Lapdog in 1826. His lordship lived till he attained the great age of eighty-five, and for sixty years of that time he was a patron of the turf, spending tens of thousands on his stables, horses, and stable retainers; and there are many who will think he was well rewarded by winning the Derby and Oaks so often. Lord Egremont was the possessor of a very large income, and was exceedingly benevolent and charitable.

Sir Tatton Sykes was born on August 22nd, 1772, and died in March, 1863, at the venerable age of ninety-one. Than Sir Tatton no man better deserves a record in the annals of the turf, and such was the esteem in which he had been held during his lifetime that 3,000 persons assembled to see him laid

in his grave. The Yorkshire baronet was a keen turfite; in his early days in London he walked down to Epsom to see Eager win the Derby in 1791; and up to 1861 Caller Ou's St. Leger was the seventy-sixth he had seen, with only one exception. Sir Tatton was one of the greatest breeders of blood stock of his day; in 1863, at the period of his death, he possessed a stud of 200 horses: and he bred, among others, Grey Momus, St. Giles, Dally, and Lecturer. The famous Yorkshire baronet was an excellent judge of horse-flesh, and was a frequent buyer at Messrs. Tattersall's northern sales; the very best blood of the English thoroughbreds was concentrated in some of his broodmares. As an amateur jockey he was well known in the saddle, and won a good many races. Sir Tatton was a model landlord, and took a continuous interest in the breeding of cattle and sheep, of all of which he was an excellent judge. He was the idol of his county, and died universally regretted.

The owner of the far-famed Voltigeur, the second Earl of Zetland, deserves a passing record. He was by no means an enthusiastic turfite, although a liberal patron of the fine sport of racing. The grand horse which has just been named cost only £350—not much to give for an animal which was destined to win the great double event of his year (1850), the Derby and St. Leger. The splendid match of 1851, 'the race of the century,' between Flying Dutchman and Voltigeur, and which, after a keen battle, was won by the Earl of Eglinton's horse, will long live in the annals of horse-racing. His lordship died in his seventy-ninth year; and his great horse only survived him nine months.

If Sir Joseph Hawley had possessed no other horse than Blue Gown, and never won any other race than the Derby of 1868, he would have gone down to posterity as one of the most fortunate turf magnates of his day and generation. It was found after the race that all the usual backers of horses were 'on Blue Gown' to a man; it took one book-maker and his staff of clerks three or four days to send off the various sums of money which his customers had won on that year's Derby. For a time Sir Joseph was a popular idol; he had run Blue Gown to oblige the public, so it was reported; but the great fact of the matter was that Blue Gown scored the victory on his merits; neither Green Sleeve nor Rosierucian could have won. Sir Joseph was undoubtedly one of the most fortunate turf-men of the present generation; but it is no secret that he won almost nothing but the stakes by the victory of his horse Blue Gown. The stakes that year amounted in the gross to £7,000.

The baronet of Kingsclere was wont to throw in for large sums over his Derby horses; £80,000 is said to have been pocketed by him when Teddington, Beadsmen, and Musjid won. Sir Joseph had backed Blue Gown, so it was said at the time, to win a similar amount, along with his other two horses, Green Sleeve and Rosierucian. After the big bet in question had been taken about Blue Gown, it was thought by Sir Joseph that he was inferior to the other two, and instructions were given to hedge all the money for which he had been backed, which was done. Enormous sums had been laid against Blue Gown for the Derby by all the leading bookmakers; and if that

horse had won the Two Thousand Guineas (and it was thought at the time he could not have lost the race), it would have been impossible for them to adjust their books—the public would not look at the other horses; and in the event of the bookmakers not being able to ‘back back’ some of their money, the ring would have been broke. Such was the gossip which became current at the time. Sir Joseph Hawley made a public declaration to win with either Rosicrucian or Green Sleeve, and would, no doubt, have preferred to have won with one or other, and so realize the £80,000 for which he had backed them; there was in reality no ‘generosity’ in his allowing Blue Gown to compete. Had Blue Gown not run, Sir Joseph Hawley would not have won the Derby of 1868.

Sir Joseph’s first great success on the turf was achieved by Miami, in 1847, when, ridden by Sim Templeman, that fine mare won the Oaks. But time had still greater triumphs in store for the ‘lucky baronet,’ as he came to be called. Having become the purchaser, from Mr. John Gully, of Mendicant, winner of the Oaks in 1846, at the then rather long price of three thousand guineas, that mare was the means of adding one day to his bank account a sum of about £80,000, won by her gallant son Beadsman, who was credited with the Derby of 1858. Ten years afterwards, namely, in 1868, Blue Gown, Beadsman’s son, repeated the story of his sire’s victory! But before those memorable turf victories Sir Joseph had tasted the sweets of Derby honours, Teddington having won the ‘Blue Ribbon’ for himself and his colleague, Mr. J. M. Stanley. Sir Joseph Hawley won

the Derby on four occasions, and 'landed,' in stakes and bets, more than a quarter of a million sterling. As has been mentioned, the lord of Leybourne Grange won the Oaks with Miami; he also won the Two Thousand Guineas with Fitz-Roland, and the One Thousand Guineas with Aphrodite. The Kentish baronet's name is also recorded in the roll of St. Leger winners. Aphrodite could only secure second honours to the win of Newminster, but Pero Gomez credited Sir Joseph with the race in 1869.

Sir Joseph Hawley was a man of fine parts, who might, had it pleased him to do so, have made his mark in the paths of either science or literature; but he preferred to court distinction on the turf, and succeeded—his success, indeed, was phenomenal. When the noble baronet became the purchaser of Mendicant, his folly in paying £3,000 for that horse was sneered at all round; but the purchase was a fortunate one, her son Beadsman, as has been told, winning the Derby of 1858, Blue Gown, the son of Beadsman, perpetuating the victory ten years later. Sir Joseph possessed a fine stud, and endeavoured at one time, but unsuccessfully, to make his mark in the racing world as a turf-reformer. He died in the year 1875, having attained the age of sixty-two years.

This portion of the 'sport of kings' might be greatly extended were it necessary, but it is impossible to devote space to all the prominent men of the turf, many of whom were only gamblers, who did nothing to improve the horse or purify the sport. In this category may be named Gully and Ridsdale, about whom interesting tales could be told, and one or two

other professional turfites might be bracketed with them.

General Peel, whose name was at one time a tower of strength in racing circles, kept a stud of horses, and in his early days was a heavy speculator at Tattersalls' and in the ring. The General was the very soul of honour, and when, at the ripe old age of eighty years, he shuffled off his mortal coil, he was generally regretted. The Earl of Wilton, who for a long period was an honour to the turf, died eight years ago (1882), after having attained to the venerable age of eighty-two. That nobleman was an all-round sportsman of great ability, and was rich in the possession of numerous friends. Notices of Mr. John Bowes, who was fortunate enough to win the Derby on four occasions, Mr. James Merry, the 'Scottish ironmaster,' Mr. Stirling Crawford, and Mr. Saville, might have been included in these rather brief memoranda, not to speak of Lord Falmouth, and the Dukes of Westminster and Portland, each of whom have been recipients of the Blue Ribbon on two occasions.

Enough has probably now been revealed to show by whom the fortunes of the British turf have been so securely built up, and the quality of the British race-horse at least maintained, if not improved, although many names of good men are doubtless wanting in the narrative.

DERBY AND OTHER JOCKEYS.

I.

THE chief jockeys of the period are the fortunate fellows of their day and generation ; they have had few of those hardships to endure which frequently formed the lot of their predecessors, and they obtain much greater rewards. Performing their work in presence of a vast concourse of spectators, their triumphs in the saddle are described to thousands in place of the tens who became familiar with the achievements of the old masters. Railways and newspapers have done this. Daily trains bear to the appointed places of sport thousands for the tens who, sixty years since, used to be present at a race-meeting, whilst the daily press recounts the prowess of successful riders. A lad who wins the Derby becomes for the moment a personage of even more note than the statesman who expounds a Budget. Tommy Loates to-day is even more in the public eye than Mr. Gladstone. Tommy has taken the lead in his business. Whether it be the good horses that make the good jockeys, or the good jockeys that make the good horses, or whether it be in some degree a mixture of both, need not at present be argued ; the fact remains that a man may attain such pre-eminence on the turf as to gain for him an income

equal to that of an Archbishop. The incomes earned by some professional horsemen are known to be large, and the presents every now and then given to them for some distinguished feat have amounted to as much sometimes as £3,000 ; many of the stories told about jockeys and their presents require, however, to be listened to with caution.

Could a complete chronicle of the lives and achievements of the jockeys of England be compiled, it would not be devoid of interest, but in the present work, the records of horsemanship must, of necessity, be rather bald, as in the early days of the turf racing sadly lacked historians. It is wonderful, indeed, that so much information has been preserved as is now available regarding the representative jockeys of last century and the years of racing which preceded 1700. Much of what is extant has been utilized in the following pages, with the view of showing the changed social conditions which now attend jockey life. Of the deeds of daring accomplished by the professional horsemen of the period the public are kept well informed, their doings being chronicled pretty much in the same fashion as the daily doings of Princes and politicians.

The earliest public riders about whom there is reliable information are 'Matchem Timms' and his son. The father appears to have been employed by the Earl of Carlisle ; in 1719 he is set down as having ridden Buckhunter for that nobleman, in the Gold Cup of the York Meeting. The horse is said to have been a good one, and of value as a trial horse. Timms won other important races, and was himself owner of Bald Peg, by Snake, son of the Lister Turk who won his

Majesty's guineas at Richmond (Yorkshire) in 1725. Young Timms was born in 1726, and became in time a horseman of some celebrity, when he rode for the Dukes of Ancaster and Devonshire, Lord Downe and others. His death took place in the year 1791, on 30th September.

Singleton senior, who, it has been said, was the best jockey of his time, was born in Yorkshire in the year 1715, and died at the ripe age of seventy-eight years, fifty of which were passed in his business. As showing the difference between then and now, it has to be stated that the father of John Singleton brought up his family and supported his wife and himself on wages of fourpence a day—all he could earn. Under such circumstances his children had a hard life of it, rendered still harder when their bread-winner died.

At a tender age, the future jockey began to earn his own bread in the pastoral occupation of helping to herd a flock of cattle which were grazed on Ross Moor, eight miles from which could be seen the wold hills, then famous as a training-ground. Young Singleton's fancy was fired by hearing of the race-horses trained thereabouts; so in the end he ran away from home, and one morning early was found at the door of Mr. Wilberforce Read, near the wolds then unenclosed. Being just in want of a boy, Mr. Read engaged John Singleton on the then easily understood terms of 'board and lodging,' which meant simply a bed among the straw, and the run of the kitchen when there was anything to eat. Between master and boy, thus brought together, a friendship began which lasted throughout their respective lives. Mr.

Read came of a good family, but was left to begin the world on his own account with only a small portion. He commenced farming on ground rented from the Earl of Carlisle, at Grimsthorpe, near Pocklington, a sporting neighbourhood, each village, far and near, having its annual feast, and at every one of these a race or two was run, while in every race there were numerous competitors. Mr. Read, taking to the turf, sold his oxen and purchased racing stock, thinking thereby to mend his fortunes.

The life Singleton led with this gentleman for a period of twenty years is worth noting. Read took a liking to him, and the boy felt himself quite at home, and always delighted in being on the back of a race-horse. Singleton, having a fine seat and good judgment of pace, obtained plenty of riding at the 'feasts,' and speedily attained local fame as a jockey. One farmer for whom he won a race was so well pleased that he gave him a ewe, which Mr. Read agreed to keep for him in place of giving him wages, so that in a few years the jockey found himself possessed of a little flock of sheep, which he sold in order to assist his master. Singleton, discovering that blood and breeding played a chief part in the improvement of the horse, and having gained experience, had come to the conclusion that English horses might be greatly improved by the infusion of a dash of Arab blood, and strongly advised his master to put one of his mares to such a horse; but money being scarce at Grimsthorpe, the only way that suggested itself to Read was that of selling the little flock of sheep. A wage of £5 a year was agreed to in place of the food hitherto supplied to

the increasing progeny of the ewe. The money thus obtained was well spent; it enabled Mr. Read to put one of his mares to a stallion from Hampton Court, the produce being a filly named Lucy, which won at Hambleton in 1736, beating a large field, and in the following year, being taken by Singleton to Morpeth, she won again. On this journey of 120 miles, which the jockey undertook with only 10s. in his pocket to meet expenses by the way, he played the part of trainer, groom, and jockey in the fashion of the period.

Being successful at Morpeth, he went to Stockton and Sunderland, winning at both places, and so earned some money for his master, and not a little reputation for himself. A filly bred by Singleton having attracted the attention of the Marquis of Rockingham, was bought by that nobleman, who at the same time engaged Singleton as groom and jockey at the then very liberal wages of £40 a year and certain clothes. Singleton had to leave Grimsthorpe without payment of his wages. As a matter of fact, he never had been paid any money during his service; but he received a bond for the amount, which he afterwards burned, Mr. Read having had no success in horse-breeding after Singleton left him. On the other hand, the jockey not only succeeded after leaving Mr. Read's service, but had succeeded so well even before leaving him that he had become a landed proprietor, and at that date owned an estate near the place where his early days of poverty had been passed; namely, in the township of Great Givendale. The money with which the land was bought had been earned by Single-

ton as a jockey, he having for several years before leaving been in possession of the greater part of the riding which was needed in the county.

In the year 1751 Singleton removed to the Marquis of Rockingham's stables at Newmarket, where in course of time he was entrusted with the entire charge of his lordship's stud. Singleton continued at Newmarket till 1774, at which date he resigned his 'livery' in favour of Christopher Scaife, who had become the husband of one of his nieces.

During his residence at Newmarket Singleton was well employed, riding many other horses than those of his master, and having a few of his own in company with a colleague named Ottley. He became wealthy, and provided for many of his poor relations. The Marquis of Rockingham appreciated his services very highly—indeed, he appears to have treated him more as a friend than a servant. 'After the great race between Bay Malton, Herod, Turf, and Askham, over the Beacon Course at Newmarket First Spring Meeting, 1767, for 500 guineas each, the Marquis ordered a gold cup to be made on which the figures of Bay Malton and his rider are richly chased, with the pedigree and performances of that celebrated horse engraven thereon, also a statement that it was offered, and not accepted, to run any horse, giving him 7 lb., over the flat for speed, or over the six-mile course for stoutness, and that he presented this cup to John Singleton, the rider of Bay Malton. Singleton also received, at the same time, a silver salver, on which was engraved all the above horses and their riders contending in the race, from an eminent silversmith,

who, although he lost his money on the race, sent it as a mark of his admiration of his riding.'

The economy of training in Singleton's period can be studied in Mr. Orton's sketch of that jockey's career. After stating that Lord Rockingham had engaged him in the double capacity of trainer and jockey, and to have charge of the Marquis's stalls at Newmarket, he says: 'But during the winter months the young stock were prepared and made ready for going into work at Swinton, near Wentworth House (the Marquis's seat), Yorkshire, by one Lund, and at the conclusion of the Newmarket spring meetings, when the horses' engagements were run out there, and they were intended to run for stakes at Doncaster and York (of both of which meetings the Marquis was a great supporter), the horses were sent, under Singleton's inspection, to a place called Thixendale, near Malton, where Singleton had purchased two farms, built stables and other conveniences there for training, which he considered the best ground for the purpose of any in the kingdom; and from this place they not unfrequently departed to win many of the best stakes, and defeat most of the first-rate horses of the day in Yorkshire.' There is every reason to believe that Singleton—for a portion of his career, at any rate—was looked upon as being the best jockey of his time. He retired from a laborious life greatly respected. His motto throughout seems to have been:

'Act well your part, there all the honour lies.'

There were other Singletons in the same line of

business: William, son of John, who in his youth went to sea, but returned to Newmarket and became a public horseman and attracted the attention of his Grace the Duke of Grafton. Two of Singleton's nephews also became jockeys, and one of them, John Singleton, is said to have been the rider of Alabaculia when she won the first Three-year-old Stake at Doncaster, in 1776, afterwards known as the St. Leger. This member of the Singleton family had entrusted to him, at one time, the management of the racing stud of the Duke of Orleans, father of Louis Philippe. A son of this John Singleton also became a jockey, and won the St. Leger for Earl Fitzwilliam. He was at first in the stables of the Duke of Bedford, where, taught by Mr. Stephenson, his Grace's head-groom, he soon came out as a rider of great promise. He died, however, in the prime of his youth, at Newmarket, in December, 1802.

II.

Among a group of jockeys of the last century there is to be found the name of 'The Flower of the North'—Joseph Rose—in whose career was exemplified the kind of work which fell to some of those olden time horsemen. It is recorded, for instance, that on Monday, September 3rd, 1764, Rose rode Beaufremont against Mr. Charteris' Favourite, for the King's Plate, at Lincoln; on Wednesday, the 5th, he rode the same horse against Vizier, for the Ladies' Plate, also at Lincoln; on Thursday, the 6th, he rode Young Davy at Richmond, Yorkshire; and on Friday, the 7th, he rode

Bachelor at Manchester; 'and all this at a period, be it remembered, when railways and locomotives were not even dreamed of; roads were not macadamized, and coaches and public conveyances moved at the rate of, perhaps, five miles an hour. At that period it is very improbable that any coaches would run on the line of his journeys, and doubtless he would be reduced to the necessity of riding his hack both late and early to reach the several places of his destination.'

There died at Richmond, in Yorkshire, on April 21st, 1791, 'the famous old jockey,' Charles Dawson, who, among other feats, won the Richmond Gold Cup, a great prize in its day, upon Silvio, in 1764, having four times previously ran second for the prize on the same horse. So celebrated became this jockey for his efforts on Silvio, that his residence near Richmond was called Silvio Hall. In the matter of gold cups, those, in the olden time, were much sought after by owners of horses. Kirton, a northern jockey of renown, born in the year 1736, gained a celebrity in this class of contests, and won more gold cups than any of his contemporaries; he also won the St. Leger in the year 1784, on Omphale, soon after which event he retired from his profession. Early in the present century he won a cause in the law courts, being declared heir to a relative who had died intestate. An equine artist of the name of Herring cannot be passed over, as he was killed in the performance of his duty, July 27th, 1796. Much of his celebrity as a jockey arose from the fact of his having won nineteen races in succession—at the time an unparalleled occurrence.

George Herring was the winner of the St. Leger Stakes, on Hollandoise, in the year in which the great three-year-old race of Doncaster was 'named.'

Leonard Jewson, who died in 1817 at the age of seventy-seven, was esteemed in his day as 'one of the first of jockeys.' As rider and trainer he realized an independence, upon which he retired some years before his death. William South, of Newmarket, was one of the ablest horsemen of his day; he died on September 13th, 1791. John Oakley was also, in his time, a horseman of great repute; 'he had the honour of riding *the most celebrated horse Britain ever produced*,' namely, Captain O'Kelly's famous Eclipse, the first time of his starting at Epsom, on May 3rd, 1769. A jockey who gained a considerable reputation for riding short races at Newmarket was Richard Goodison, well known by his nickname of 'Hell-Fire Dick.' He, too, was a Yorkshireman by birth, and died in 1817, 'in good circumstances,' aged sixty-six years. Goodison was both jockey and trainer, and in those capacities served the Duke of Queensberry for a long period, notwithstanding that they had frequent differences of opinion, which resulted in hot quarrels. The reputation of this jockey was founded on the alertness with which he got away on the fall of the flag—a necessary accomplishment in a rider of short races. Goodison was a bold, fearless rider, possessed of great presence of mind and quickness. His successes on the Rocket Gelding attracted much attention, and gained him his nickname of 'Hell-Fire Dick.' One of Goodison's sons obtained a reputation as a jockey not inferior to that of his father, and was in his day

the rider of four Derby winners, viz., Pope, Smolensko, Whisker, and Moses; he also won the Oaks twice, viz., on Music and Minuet, and was likewise a winner of the St. Leger, in which race he steered Barefoot to victory in the year 1823—a good record. The rider of that celebrated horse Diamond, in the great match of 1788 with Hambletonian, was Dennis Fitzpatrick. As the match was one of immense importance, ‘the result being impatiently awaited all over the civilized world,’ Fitzpatrick must have been thought a good horseman—as indeed he was. Among his achievements was his winning the Derby, in 1805, on Cardinal Beaufort.

III.

Passing over a number of the smaller fry of riders, the doings on the turf of the senior Chifney, a ‘luminary of the first brilliancy,’ must now be alluded to. He was not only considered, but was in truth, the best rider of his day. He was born in the county of Norfolk, and at an early period of his life found employment in the Newmarket racing-stables, where he soon became known for his knowledge of the horse and his ability in the saddle. His first masters were among the best training grooms of Newmarket: Fox, by whom he was employed in the year 1770, and Mr. Prince, groom to Lord Foley, in whose stables he remained for some time.

Taking Chifney at his own estimate of his abilities, he says: ‘In 1773 I could ride horses in a better manner, in a race to beat others, than any person ever

known in my time; and in 1775 I could train horses for running better than any person I ever yet saw. Riding I learned myself, and training I learned from Mr. Richard Prince.' This estimate of his own abilities was, it seems, not overdrawn, but was endorsed by the best judges of the time, and Chifney, in consequence, soon found himself at the top of the tree as a horseman, being considered the superior of all his contemporaries, among whom were Oakley, J. P. Hindley, John Arnold, Sam Arnall, W. Clift and, though last not least, that excellent horseman, F. Buckle. His employers numbered some of the greatest patrons of the turf, including the Duke of Bedford and Lord Grosvenor. But he was best known professionally from his connection with George IV., then Prince of Wales, who, in consequence of his fame as a jockey, had engaged him on July 14th, 1790, to ride for him at the then handsome salary of £200 per annum.

Chifney senior is associated in the annals of the turf with what was, at the time, a *cause célèbre*, namely, his riding of the King's horse Escape, the proceedings in connection with which event excited an extraordinary degree of attention. Simply stated, the whole affair was as follows: He rode the horse in question on October 20th, 1791, and was defeated in the race, but on the same horse he rode to victory the next day, and in consequence was accused by the Jockey Club of having rode the horse 'a cheat,' an accusation which he refuted with great spirit; but although his innocence of any fraud was clearly established, the very accusation had so militated for a

time against his career and prospects, that he ultimately wrote a history of the whole matter under the title of 'Genius Genuine.' His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was perfectly convinced of the integrity of his servant, but withdrew from Newmarket. He continued, however, to be Chifney's patron at other meetings where he had horses running, and also settled a pension upon him, which was to be paid so long as the Prince lived; in addition to which, Chifney's two sons were received into the Prince's stables.

One of Chifney's sons, having heard that his father had been calumniated by Colonel Leigh, one of His Royal Highness's equerries, took the liberty of asserting his father's innocence by thrashing that gentleman, which led to the discharge of the lads from the royal stables and the withdrawal of the pension which the Prince had bestowed on their father. This was in 1803, and in 1807 the senior Chifney died in his lodgings in Fleet Street, London, leaving a widow and six children in rather reduced circumstances. There is no doubt whatever that the elder Chifney was in every way a remarkable man, and although only about five feet five inches in height, a giant in his profession of horse-riding. He was possessed of an immense fund of knowledge with regard to the training and riding of horses, as also of stable economy. He was the inventor of a particular bit that bore his name, and he was the discoverer of what he called 'slack-rein riding,' about which there was at one time a great deal of controversy. The pamphlet 'Genius Genuine' obtained a great sale.

IV.

It is now the turn of Samuel Chifney, junior, to come upon the scene. He and his brother William were taught the whole art of jockeyship by their father, who took infinite pains to instruct them in all the *finesse* of the business. He trained them by constant exercise on horseback, making them day after day ride all sorts of races in dead earnest, he riding in the contests with all his might, anxious that he should leave his fame to be perpetuated and added to by his sons. The father grounded his son William as a trainer. The 'Druid' has some genial gossip in one of his books with regard to the training of the brothers Chifney by their father whilst he resided at Newmarket; he tells us that the tuition given was severe, but at the same time affectionate; and while he carefully grounded Will in the rudiments of that training lore of which Priam and Zingance were destined to be such enduring monuments, he gave Sam lesson after lesson in race-riding, from the moment he dared trust him on a pony alone. He used to slip off with him into the stables when he (Sam) was barely three stone, and after putting a racing-saddle on to Kit Karr, Silver, Sober Robin, or Magic, show him by the hour how to sit and hold his reins. Aided by lessons of this nature, and constant practice twice a day in the gallops, Will had already become a very expert horseman; and while he was with the string at exercise, his father and Sam, one on his Heath hack and the other on a pony, would mark out a three

hundred yards course, under the cover of the fir clump on the Warren Hill, and run twelve or thirteen races during an afternoon. Every phase of finishing was compressed into the lesson. Sam would make the running, and then his father would get to his girths, take a pull, and initiate him into the mysteries of a set to. These tactics would then be reversed, and Sam taught to get up and win by a head in the last stride, or to nurse his pony and come in with a tremendous rush—the Chifney rush of after-years.

Samuel Chifney the younger began the work of his life at Brampton Park, in Herefordshire, where his uncle, Mr. Smallman, was training-groom to the Earl of Oxford. The young jockey—he was only in his thirteenth year when he began to ride in the Earl's colours—soon began to put the precepts of his father into practice, and to play in earnest upon the lessons he received under the fir-clump on Warren Hill. His energy in riding was great, and his success was commensurate. He was able to out-jockey men who were far beyond him in years, and ought to have been able to out-jockey him. He played the waiting game; allowed those who were more eager to ride till they were out of breath, and then, when just at the post, pounced upon them with that fearful final 'rush' for which he soon became so famous. The Earl of Oxford was a keen hand at the game of racing, and was fond of training his horses in harness; in other words, he was a believer in the opinion of an old Yorkshire trainer, who used to say that, 'if horses want to be sweated, you may as well sweat them for the brass,' or, in plain language, run them in all the races they are

entered in till they win, or the entries are exhausted. The success of Uncle Smallman and Nephew Sam had become so pronounced by the year 1802 as to attract the attention of the Prince of Wales, who at once engaged Mr. Smallman as his trainer, and with him to Albury Grange, near Windsor, went Sam for a month or two, in order to try his hand in the colours of the Prince, which were 'purple jacket with scarlet sleeves and gold braid buttons, and black cap with gold tassel.' His first effort in His Royal Highness's livery on the Fidget colt was an unsuccessful one; but for all that Sam was delighted with his mount, and always dated the real beginning of his career as a jockey from that time. Chifney returned to Newmarket to take a position in the stables of Mr. Perren, and his brother Will succeeded him at Albury Grange.

The senior Chifney, as has already been mentioned, was still retained by the Prince, and had most of his riding work entrusted to him; but mounts were soon found for young Sam among some of Mr. Perren's patrons, to whom his riding gave great satisfaction. The Prince of Wales, it may be observed, had broken up his establishment at Albury Grange, and sent on his horses to Perren's stable at Newmarket. For the affair already alluded to, in which Will Chifney inflicted personal chastisement on one of the Prince's gentlemen-in-waiting, he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, which was an unfortunate circumstance for the family, as the royal patronage was at length withdrawn, and some of the patricians of the turf, headed by the Duke of Grafton, withdrew their patronage from Sam, which was rather hard on

the poor jockey, and on his father as well, who had suffered a great deal of contumely in connection with the unfortunate Escape business. But Sam's star was only eclipsed speedily to rise again; his brilliant New Claret victory on Lord Darlington's horse Pavilion, at the First Spring Meeting of 1805, having attracted universal attention, he was honoured with the royal colours. This was in every sense a great race for a lad of nineteen to win from such competitors in the saddle as W. Arnull, Buckle, and Clift, who were the jockeys of the occasion. The following rubric of the race may prove interesting.

The New Claret Stakes of 200 guineas each, h. ft., colts 8 st. 7 lb., fillies 8 st. 2 lb., D. I. The owner of the second horse received back his stake. Six subscribers.

Lord Darlington's b. c. Pavilion, by Waxy	-	S. Chifney	1
Mr. Mellish's b. c. Sancho	- - -	F. Buckle	2
Lord Egremont's b. c. Hannibal	- - -	W. Arnull	3
Duke of Grafton's b. f. Pelisse	- - -	Clift	4

Betting: 6 to 4 against Sancho, 3 to 1 against Hannibal, 5 to 1 Pelisse, 7 to 1 Pavilion. The older jockeys bestowed a good deal of their 'chaff' on Chifney, asking if he had come for a lesson, etc.; but Sam had a great revenge: he rode a patient race, and, biding his time, came with what has since been described as an electric rush, and won the race by two lengths, much to the astonishment of his brother jockeys, and to the unbounded delight of Lord Darlington and his trainer. This race, which was undoubtedly won by the fine and patient riding of Chifney, established his fame as a Newmarket jockey of great power and originality,

thanks to the patient training of his father. In 'the land of the Tykes,' Sam pursued his victorious career, and told his brother that he could beat every jockey in Yorkshire.

It would serve no good purpose to chronicle all Chifney's victories. It may be mentioned, however, that he won the Derby on two occasions, and also rode five of the Oaks winners to victory, beating the record of his father, who only once rode a Derby winner, but who was more fortunate in 'the Garter of the Turf,' winning, as he did, the Oaks on four occasions. The 'rush' of Chifney was his speciality as a jockey; but although this feature of his riding was obvious enough, it was not always so obvious that previous to the 'rush' taking place he had taken care to obtain a coign of vantage from which to effect it. Every jockey has some speciality in his mode of riding. It was complained of one of the most eminent of the brotherhood that he had 'a nasty way of stealing the race;' but that is the essence of jockeyship. The word means that, and perhaps a little more; it signifies that the race is being stolen, and that you know the fact. From 'jockey' has arisen the phrase of being 'jockeyed out' of anything. Some jockeys draw their races too fine. It has been the boast of more than one of the fraternity that he was always annoyed at himself when he won by a greater distance than a head from his opponent. But that, in the opinion of most owners who have big sums depending in bets on the event, is much too close to be pleasant; to obtain such a sum of money as the Derby or St. Leger produces at the risk of a 'head' cannot be pleasant. It will be a relief, at any rate, when

the winning number is hoisted, so as to place the matter beyond dispute. Some jockeys, however, will persist in 'drawing it fine.' They are good artists, no doubt, but sometimes they are well beaten at their own game, getting 'kidded' out of the race by a cunning competitor just when they think they have won the battle. As a trainer said on one occasion at Doncaster: 'I like to see my horses winning by at least two lengths, and what is more, I like to see them with the race in hand for a hundred yards before they reach the judge's chair.'

Jockeys, be it understood, are not to ride a race in any way they please; they 'must ride to order'; but circumstances sometimes arise in the course of the race which prevent their doing so, or, at all events, which prevent a literal compliance with their instructions. The best order to give an intelligent jockey—one who is able to ride with his head as well as with his hands—is to 'win the race all the way if you can, but if you cannot do that, win at the end if possible,' which was the invariable direction given by an owner of the old school to whatever jockey was riding for him. Another owner who was partial to giving complicated instructions to his jockeys was told on one occasion to ride his — horse himself, as the rider did not understand any of his — mathematics. The best instruction, perhaps, ever given to a jockey was to 'make every post a winning-post.'

V.

Among the horsemen of long ago will be found the name of one who was a credit to the turf, and who well deserves a few lines here by way of record. His name was Francis Buckle, who won the race for the Derby on five occasions, was victorious eight times in the Oaks, three of his wins being in consecutive years; while twice the St. Leger fell to his prowess in the saddle. Buckle was at an early age sent to the business of jockeyship, passing through the usual drudgery incidental to stable-boy life.

It was discovered at an early period of his novitiate in the stable at Newmarket where he was trained to his duty, that the boy was possessed of a head which, on the occurrence of an emergency, led him to do the right thing at the proper moment. Buckle very soon became a good rider, and had only been at work for a month or two when he was entrusted with the important business of riding in trials, in which he showed such aptitude as to convince all who saw his performances that he had the stuff in him of which good jockeys are made. After serving in the stable for two years, he was sent to ride on the race-courses; and in the course of a few seasons he was acknowledged to have few superiors at the business. Buckle became especially great in match riding—unequaled, it has been said. A celebrated match in which he took part was that between Hambletonian and Diamond, for 3,000 guineas, and which he won cleverly by means of his 'head.' Buckle was fond of telling the following

story relating to that historical contest. Sir H. Vane Tempest had supported Hambletonian to win a very large stake, and his interest in the race became at length so intense as rather to unnerve him. At the last moment, just as the two horses arrived at the starting-post, he came to Buckle on pretence of giving him his final instruction, but in reality to learn what opinion his jockey had of the result. Buckle was so cool and collected that Sir H. V. Tempest was delighted; grasping the rider's hand, he said, 'Buckle, I would give half the stake to be half as cool as you are.'

Of Buckle it has to be said that he was, as well as being one of the greatest horsemen of his day, an eminently respectable 'man.' He married and 'settled down' at the age of twenty-four, being then in receipt of a good income; but his wife only lived for a short period after her marriage. In 1807 he took to himself a second wife, and used, when not engaged in the business of riding, to 'farm,' at Long Orton, in Huntingdonshire, devoting great attention to sheep and oxen, breeding some remarkably good animals. He afterwards occupied a farm at Peterborough; and while living there he was in the habit of starting for Newmarket early in the morning on his hack, riding a few trials, and then returning to tea at six o'clock, the distance travelled being ninety-two miles. Buckle was a most trustworthy person in all the relations of life, and was able to make choice of mounts out of the circle of his masters, and would never ride a horse of which he did not like the look. His chief masters were Lord Grosvenor, Sir Charles Bunbury, and Colonel

Mellish. One of the most extraordinary matches he ever rode was that against Mrs. Thornhill, which has been often noticed. His name gave rise to a good deal of punning, says the *Old Sporting Magazine* :

‘ A Buckle large was formerly the rage,
But now a small one fills our sportive page.’

Buckle died on February 7th, 1832, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, leaving his family with all the comforts of life.

‘ Oh, where is a match for a treasure so rare ?
Look round the wide world and you’ll ne’er find a pair;
For trained to the turf he stands quite alone,
And a *pair of such* Buckles was never yet known.’

An examination of the records of the classic races will reveal the names of the famous horsemen of a hundred years ago who won the Derby, St. Leger, or Oaks, but more cannot be done here than make simple references to the names of a few of the more prominent. Marvellous tales have been told of the prowess of the old masters of horsemanship, who won the Derby and other races in the earlier years of their history ; but he must be a clever jockey who can win on a bad horse ; and in these latter days we have probably seen as able men, or rather boys, in the saddle on Epsom Heath as were witnessed by our fathers and grandfathers.

The first rider who won the Derby was S. Arnall, one of a family of horsemen of the period. The Chifneys, father and son, are both on the roll of successful Derby horsemen, the latter having won the race on two occasions ; so is Buckle. J. Arnall won several ‘ Blue Ribbons ’ ; Clift was a quintuple winner. Another of the many famous horsemen of the

middle age of the Derby was J. Robinson, who won the race five times, and brought off, for a wager, his great triple event of winning the Derby, the Oaks, and getting married, all in the same week. He was of great respectability; and there are turfmen living who can recount the dexterity he displayed in the saddle near the end of a race, when, with a mighty rush, he came to snatch a victory just at the winning-post.

Other horsemen might be mentioned, men of renown in the saddle, who won the Derby: Chapple, Flatman, and Marson, as well as Frank Butler, a fine horseman, an excellent judge of pace, and a brilliant finisher. On Job Marson, it used to be said, the mantle of Chifney had fallen, and he knew how to 'finish' as well as how to begin. Old turfites tell us 'there were giants in those days,' and so far as the jockeys of the Derby are concerned, that is to be understood. Of the Derby horsemen of to-day nothing need be said; the jockeys of the period are more than sufficiently petted by the sporting press and the sporting public.

In the annals of the St. Leger there are some other names than those mentioned which deserve a place here. Mangle was a frequent rider and winner in the great Doncastrian event. The names of Searle, Peirse, and Jackson are also enrolled in St. Leger annals. Likewise the names of Shepherd, Johnson, and Clift; nor must B. Smith be forgotten, or the Days. These men have all biographies, but unfortunately there is not space in this volume to narrate their doings on the racecourse and the training-grounds. W. Scott's name is placed against nine St. Leger victories, four

of them being consecutive wins. The same names crop up in the annals of the Oaks, and were the chronicles of the various miscellaneous races and matches of about a hundred years ago to be carefully examined, it would be found that the riders just enumerated had taken their share in the daily work of the race-course, which at the period indicated was far more onerous than the jockey work of to-day, when there is no tiresome travelling work to undergo, almost no sweating, and no stable drudgery for lads who can ride in a race. The jockey of to-day keeps his valet, and rides to the seats of racing in a first-class railway carriage, with perhaps a Duchess on one side of him and a baronet on the other.

VI.

The nominal remuneration of a jockey has been fixed by the Jockey Club at five guineas for a winning mount and three guineas for a losing one; but leading horsemen possess other sources of income than their fees. Such is now the competition to obtain the services of a sober and clever jockey, that a lad of ability, in addition to his fees, will probably have a retaining-salary from two or three masters. England's chief horsemen, it is understood, have several retainers, and from these engagements they very likely derive more than they do in fees. In addition, however, to this source of income, several of them pocket a pretty considerable sum every season for riding trials, a great number of which are constantly taking place at New-

market. The revenue from this source alone has been put down in the case of about half a dozen jockeys as not being less than from four to six hundred per annum. Then come the multitudinous presents made to popular riders, about which the public are every now and then being told so much. Whenever a great race is decided, a paragraph at once goes the round of the press to tell all the world that 'the victorious jockey was presented by the gratified owner with the sum of one thousand pounds.' Such sums, indeed much larger amounts, have more than once been paid to successful jockeys, and lesser sums of a 'pony' or a 'century' are frequently given to clever horsemen for their services. Suppose that a chief jockey is free to take a mount in a handicap of importance—in other words, that none of his masters have a horse competing, and that his services are being asked for by perhaps three persons each having a horse in the race; the result most likely will be that one of them will ask him to name his own terms, the authorized fee in such cases counting for nothing, and so it may come that the jockey will get two hundred guineas win or lose, and be 'put on' five hundred or even a thousand to nothing on his mount. Archer, for instance, when he rode Rosebery in the Cesarewitch, received a sum of one thousand pounds from the gentleman who 'engineered' that memorable victory. For winning the sensational Derby of 1880, when Bend Or only beat Robert the Devil by, as the saying goes, 'the skin of his teeth,' the Duke of Westminster presented the rider with a cheque for £500. These sums will doubtless be looked upon by the outside

world as being very large amounts to pay for what appears a momentary service. But a chief jockey may say, as Sir Gilbert Scott, the eminent architect, once said to a high dignitary of the Church who had employed him to renovate a cathedral, and then grumbled at the amount of his account, 'My lord, I am a Bishop in my profession.' When a horse named Petrarch, quite contrary to general expectation, which was all the other way, won the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes, the jockey, a stable-lad at the time, who rode that horse, received from an anonymous donor a sum of £500; it was from a person, very likely, who had at an early period backed the horse to win a big stake, and in the circumstances was so thankful to win his money that he evinced his gratitude in the way mentioned.

It should be explained that the sums which jockeys are often said to be presented with on occasions of winning a big race are easily enough provided by the owner of the horse backing it with a bookmaker for the amount to be given to the rider. In cases where the owner is not a betting man, then he pays the money out of the stakes which are won. Wells, the jockey who rode Blue Gown to victory in the Derby, was presented by his master with the stakes won on the occasion, amounting to a sum of over £6,000. When Teddington won, the same gentleman, it is said, gave the rider a cheque for £1,000.

The official charge for fees being known, it is open to any public writer to calculate the sum represented by the number of a jockey's mounts, and to give his readers the benefit of the figures. As regards presents

made to successful riders, few of those who are unacquainted with the routine of turf life have the least idea of their number and value. It becomes a sort of instinct with many who unexpectedly obtain a big sum of money to give a portion of it away. Numerous instances could easily be cited in proof of the fact. When a man by risking a ten-pound note finds himself in possession of three or four hundred pounds, his sense of gratitude becomes excited, and he at once hands to the jockey who has been in the greatest degree the instrument of his good fortune a five, ten, or twenty pound note, according to the depth of his feeling on the occasion.

There are, of course, hundreds of hardened turf men who never bestow one thought either on the horse or its rider; they bag their winnings or pay their losings, and say nothing to anyone about them. The presents in hard cash, and in jewels and other valuables, which are made to jockeys by persons who, through their exertions, have won considerable sums of money, are really remarkable both for their number and value. Only the other day, so to speak, a jockey, who was unfortunately killed at Liverpool, received over £3,000 from only two persons as a recognition of his success in winning a certain great handicap. A lad who a few years ago unexpectedly won an important race found himself all at once a favoured child of fortune. The horse he rode, although at one time a favourite, had been driven back in the betting to a very long price, so much so that all who had backed it looked upon their money as having been thrown away. Their delight at the ultimate success

of the horse was evinced in the shower of presents which fell on the household of the fortunate rider, who up to that period had been a person of very little repute in the stables. Presents in money to the extent of over £400 were made to him; he was handed a jewelled ring for the finger of his wife which a Duchess might be proud to wear; a set of diamond studs was bestowed upon him; he became the recipient of thirty-two boxes of cigars, and of nine suits of clothes and nineteen new hats. The minor presents of pipes, tobacco, liquors, etc., need not be enumerated—they were far too numerous to be chronicled in these pages, and the variety of them was most laughable.

VII.

‘Why,’ it has been asked, ‘should the chief jockey have an income equal to that of an Archbishop, and far more than is received by a Prime Minister or a General of the army?’ To answer that question is not so easy as may be imagined. It may be said, first of all, as regards his fees, that as he rides so many horses so his total accumulates, and if masters who keep race-horses compete for his services, who can prevent them? and who is to stay the hands which offer him presents in gratitude for money won? ‘Yes,’ it is answered; ‘but there is no money thrown away on a jockey, no capital expended on his education; he is not sent to Eton or Harrow, or kept at Oxford or Cambridge till he is twenty-four years of age, at a cost of thousands to his parents.’ A stable lad, it has been

argued, goes to business at the age of ten or eleven, and obtains his food and as much money as will keep him in clothes as long as he is an apprentice, at the end of which period, if not before, he may obtain his £500 or £5,000 a year as a rider in horse-races! That may be so, but the great prizes in jockeyland, it must be kept in view, are just about the proportion of Bishops to common clergy. Seventy-six jockeys can be singled out as having competed one year, one of the number only riding nine times. Supposing that only 2,000 boys are engaged in the English racing-stables, there are only a very few of them who can have the chance of becoming a Loates or Barrett, and earning the income of a Prime Minister. Some jockeys who display ability, and obtain the chance of distinguishing themselves, unfortunately go rapidly to 'the bad,' and become waifs of the turf; they get spoiled by early successes, 'flee to drink,' and in a very short time are incapacitated for their work.

Jockeys who desire to succeed in their business must be of temperate habits, and comport themselves as if they had old heads on their young shoulders. Clever men as equestrians can at present be pointed out who have to stand down because of their bad conduct, and see riders, with, it may be, not a tithe of their ability, making their fortunes. There is no calling of which its professors are exposed at so early an age to such terrible temptations as that of the jockey. It has been suggested, indeed, by a public writer that the leading jockeys are not paid so much for their skill as their honesty. It is not the first time that a turf-rider has been bribed. 'I am

backing this horse for the owner,' said a betting man to a bookmaker. 'And I am laying it for the jockey,' was the reply; 'he says it has no chance to win, and when he says that I know what I am doing.' After all, what matters, the paying of £1,000 to a jockey by the owner of a horse who in the event of its winning the race will pocket fifty times the amount? If a bookmaker has laid against a horse to lose £12,000 or £15,000, it would be a grand bargain if he could, to a dead certainty, prevent it from winning by paying a large sum to its trainer or jockey to disable it. Such 'arrangements' have been made more than once, and in these and similar considerations, which will easily suggest themselves to the intelligent reader, must be sought an answer to the question, why a jockey should be well paid.

The economy of the turf and the discipline of the racing-stable is nowadays greatly different from what it was in the time of Holman, who described his experiences of Newmarket. There are probably ten times the number of boys in the racing-stables that there was in his day. There are, certainly, it may be assumed, ten times the number of running horses, and it may be taken for granted that there will be, as a rule, a boy for each horse, to attend it in the stable and ride it at exercise. It is from these boys that the future jockeys spring. They are watched by their masters, and good riders among them are noted, and gradually entrusted with work; taught to ride in trials, and by-and-by entrusted with a 'mount' in public, when thought fit for such a position of trust. Boys, of course, will be boys, and sad pranks

are sometimes played in the training-stables ; but discipline, as a rule, is well kept up, and the lads are sharply looked after, which is necessary, as they are exposed to great temptations, which some of them, unfortunately for themselves and their masters, are unable to withstand. Many a fierce attack made on a horse in the money market has been traced to a breach of trust committed by boys in a training-stable. It would be passing strange if among a body of 10,000 there were not a few black sheep.

The social position of the jockey has greatly changed since the days of Singleton and Buckle : he is now a gentleman, comparatively speaking, and obtains recognition from persons much above him in social station. When, during his holidays, the chief jockey takes a look round in foreign lands, he has noble captains for his companions. The jockey of the period does not nowadays require to walk, leading his horse from meeting to meeting, and there are riders now at a greater variety of weights than there were eighty or a hundred years ago. There are over two hundred licensed jockeys at the command of the owners of horses, and the Jockey Club never passed a more sensible law than that which compels each jockey to take out a license : it is in the nature of a bond for their good behaviour, and has already proved beneficial.

JOCKEYS WHO HAVE WON THE DERBY,
WITH THE NAMES OF THE WINNING
HORSES.

Aldcroft, Ellington, 1856.

Archer, F., Silvio, 1877; Bend Or, 1880; Iroquois,
1881; Melton, 1885; Ormonde, 1886.

Arnall, J., Serjeant, 1784; Rhadamanthus, 1790;
Didelot, 1796; Archduke, 1799; Election, 1807.

Arnall, S., Diomed, 1780; Assassin, 1782; Sir Peter
Teazle, 1787; Sir Harry, 1798.

Arnall, W., Hannibal, 1804; Octavius, 1812; Blucher,
1814.

Barrett, F., Ayrshire, 1888.

Bell, F., Merry Monarch, 1845.

Buckle, John Bull, 1792; Dædalus, 1794; Tyrant,
1802; Phantom, 1811; Emilius, 1823.

Bullock, Kettledrum, 1861.

Butler, F., Daniel O'Rourke, 1852; West Australian,
1853.

Cannon, T., Shotover, 1882.

Chaloner, T., Macaroni, 1863.

Chapple, Dangerous, 1833; Amato, 1838.

Charlton, Blink Bonny, 1857.

Chifney, sen., Skyscraper, 1789.

- Chifney, S., Sam, 1818 ; Sailor, 1820.
Clift, Waxy, 1793 ; Champion, 1800 ; Ditto, 1803 ;
Whalebone, 1810 ; Tiresias, 1819.
Collinson, Pan, 1808.
Conolly, Plenipotentiary, 1834 ; Coronation, 1841.
Constable, Sefton, 1878.
Custance, Thormanby, 1860 ; Lord Lyon, 1866 ;
George Frederick, 1874.
Daley, J., Hermit, 1867.
Day, A., Andover, 1854.
Day, S., Gustavus, 1821 ; Priam, 1830 ; Pyrrhus the
First, 1846.
Dockeray, Lapdog, 1826.
Edwards, G., Phosphorus, 1837.
Fitzpatrick, Cardinal Beaufort, 1805.
Flatman, Orlando, 1844.
Fordham, Sir Bevys, 1879.
Forth, Frederick, 1829.
French, T., Kingcraft, 1870 ; Favonius, 1871.
Goodison, Pope, 1809 ; Smolensko, 1813 ; Whisker,
1815 ; Moses, 1822.
Grimshaw, H., Gladiateur, 1865.
Hindley, Young Eclipse, 1781 ; Saltram, 1783 ;
Aimwell, 1785.
Loates, S., Harvester, 1884 (d.h.).
Loates, T., Donovan, 1889.
Macdonald, Little Wonder, 1840.
Maidment, Cremorne, 1872 ; Kisber, 1876.
Marlow, The Flying Dutchman, 1849.
Marson, J., Voltigeur, 1850 ; Teddington, 1851.
Morris, Galopin, 1875.
Osborne, J., Pretender, 1869.

Parsons, Caractacus, 1862.

Robinson, Azor, 1817 ; Cedric, 1824 ; Middleton, 1825 ; Mameluke, 1827 ; Cadland, 1828 ; Bay Middleton, 1836.

Saunders, Eleanor, 1801.

Scott, St. Giles, 1832 ; Mundig, 1835 ; Attila, 1842 ; Cotherstone, 1843.

Shepherd, Paris, 1806.

Sherwood, R., Wild Dayrell, 1855.

Singleton, J., c. by Fidget, 1797.

Snowden, J., Blair Athol, 1864.

South, W., Sir Thomas, 1788.

Stephenson, Eager, 1791.

Templeman, Bloomsbury, 1839 ; Cossack, 1847 ; Surplice, 1848.

Watts, J., Merry Hampton, 1887.

Webb, F., Doncaster, 1873.

Wells, Beadsman, 1858 ; Musjid, 1859 ; Blue Gown, 1868.

Wheatly, A., Spread Eagle, 1795 ; Prince Leopold, 1816 ; Spaniel, 1831.

White, J., Noble, 1786.

Wood, C., St. Blaise, 1883 ; St. Gatien, 1884 (d.h.).

TRAINERS OF DERBY AND OTHER HORSES.

‘It strikes me very forcibly, sir, that nearly all our horses are over-trained—in fact, galloped to death; and as nearly all trainers pursue the same system of training, no discovery of that great fact has yet been made. But some day, when an owner or trainer, of an original way of thinking, has the courage to take Nature for his guide, and not work a horse off its feet before the time fixed for it to run, then the great discovery will be made, and some important race be won with greater ease than any race was ever won before.’

These words were spoken at Epsom more than twenty years ago by a gentleman who possessed many claims to speak on the subject of race-horse training. He founded his observations by saying that training had become too much a matter of ‘use and wont,’ and that ‘head lads,’ and jockeys who began business on their own account, simply followed the modes of work to which they had been accustomed in the stables in which they had been bred. Happily, of late years trainers have come upon the scene who have in many respects been better entered to their business than most of their predecessors—men who do not take every horse to be

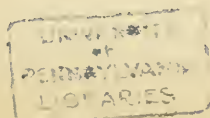
one and the same animal, and then proceed to gallop their charges as so many machines. Older practitioners in the art have also learned that different horses have different constitutions, and require care in feeding and discrimination in the amount of exercise which is necessary; and as a great deal of training—since railways opened up the scene of operations—is done in public, criticism is not wanting to temper erroneous methods.

It is somewhat difficult to obtain any very reliable information of the modes of training at Newmarket a hundred and twenty years ago—that is to say, about the time the Derby and Oaks were instituted—or regarding the trainers and the social life of the stables. At the period indicated there were presumably no public trainers of horses in the sense that there are public trainers to-day; at least, if there were any, they must have been few and far between. Doubtless, one 'training groom' might have more than one man's horses in his charge, but his masters in that case would be friends or colleagues in racing. In the autobiography of Holcroft, the comedian and dramatist, there is given a vivid sketch of the training and stable discipline of his day, written from personal experience, the author of 'The Road to Ruin' having been a stable-boy at Newmarket.

Holcroft travelled from Nottingham on the back of a race-horse, under the guidance of one Jack Clarke, who lived with Captain Vernon; but his master was to be a Mr. Woodcock, who trained four or five miles from Newmarket. Poor Holcroft, on the way to his new home, was delighted; the plenty of excellent cold

beef, bread and cheese, with the best table-beer, and as much as he liked to eat when he stopped to breakfast, were an indication of the happy change he had made from his previous state of poverty. Jack Clarke was so kind as to put the boy on his guard against the tricks which were always played upon novices in the racing-stables. One of the practical jokes of that period—about the year 1757—was for the boys to persuade their victim that the first thing necessary for a well-trained stable-boy to do is to borrow as many waistcoats as he can, and in the morning, after he has fed and dressed his horse, put them all on, take a race of perhaps two or three miles, return home, strip himself stark naked, and immediately be covered up in the hot dunghill—which they assure him is the method the grooms take when they sweat themselves down to ride a race. Should the poor fellow follow their directions, they conclude the joke with pailfuls of cold water which stand ready to throw over him. Other practical jokes follow, some of them not quite so clean in detail as that just mentioned. Holcroft tells us, in his autobiography, that he rode at exercise in the procession of the stable horses, just as is done to-day both at Newmarket and elsewhere, and many of the disagreeable things which occurred were overlooked by the future dramatist in consideration of the plentiful supply of excellent food which fell to the lot of the stable-boys.

Various records of the old modes of training by rule of thumb are extant, and anecdotes and reminiscences of the old-time trainers are occasionally to be met with ; while the systems of the period, so far as they are



a modification of the old practices, can be seen by anyone who takes the trouble to visit a training-ground.

The writer of this volume makes no pretence of his ability to teach his grandmother to suck eggs, but he has no hesitation in saying, what indeed is an obvious truth, that 'there are trainers *and* trainers.' This truism was, on a late occasion, well exemplified in one of the Newmarket hotels, where a few trainers and other racing men were congregated. One of the old school was chaffing one of the new school, who is somewhat of a dandy, about his kid gloves and his fine linen. 'I am just as able to train a race-horse in a clean shirt as in a dirty one,' was the rather smart retort of the dandy.

Nowadays trainers figure in the society papers among 'celebrities at home,' and why not? They are—some of them—great in their vocation, and entrusted with most important interests. There are trainers of to-day who have charge of racing stock amounting in value to probably more than a hundred thousand pounds; not a few of the modern trainers have each from two to twelve horses in their charge, each of the value of from two to four thousand pounds. The Falmouth sale, a year or two since, would no doubt open the eyes of the non-racing public to the responsibilities of trainers, and the onerous duties which devolve upon them. One of these gentlemen, who had a horse in his keeping which was first favourite for the Derby a few years ago, told the writer that he was nearly done to death during the twenty days which preceded the race. Every day there came half a dozen anonymous letters, some containing threats, others

warnings, others advice. Appetite fell off, sleep was banished from that trainer's pillow, and a chronic state of bad health seemed likely to result; but time and the hour wore on, and the race well over—and, what is better, won—the appetite returned, the faculty of sleeping came back, and health and serenity were restored.

The master of an important training-stable, having as customers five or six gentlemen, each being owner of half a dozen horses, and each more ambitious than the other of winning everything for which he enters them, has not his sorrows to seek. The only way by which jealousies can be kept down, and discipline maintained, is to allow one or other of the patrons of the stable to direct affairs—the others playing second fiddle. But such arrangements are not easy to carry out—each person being suspicious of his neighbour. Sir John Randolph is always thinking that Sir Randolph Jones is being favoured in some way, and 'rows' not infrequently take place in consequence. The trainer may be as honest and upright as man can be, doing his duty by all the horses in his stable, but the fact will be doubted by some one or other of his employers, so that there come quarrels, secessions, and changes. In several stables every owner fights for his own hand, so that the trainer has much suffering to endure when one of his patrons wins a race in which the other owners have also something running. It is all in vain they are told the best horse has won; they will not believe that, and think themselves ill-used. When a trainer trains for several patrons, all of them independent of each other, he has a delicate part to play,

and it is, under such circumstances, really wonderful that so few quarrels take place.

In an important training-establishment a large number of persons have to be employed—mostly boys. These persons are always a source of anxiety to the head of the establishment. They are anxiously waited for by the scamps who hang around such places, who tempt them to betray their trust. Where the boys are so weak as to submit to such treatment, they are eagerly questioned and cross-questioned about all that takes place in the stables. They are treated to games of billiards, plied with liquor, and have presents made to them of occasional sovereigns and suits of clothes, all, of course, on condition of betraying their master's trust in them. Only a few months ago a Newmarket lad was kicked out of the stables for doing 'something' to one of his master's horses which had become a good favourite for an important handicap. It is impossible even for the most vigilant trainer to escape an occasional occurrence of the kind indicated. Many instances might be related of trainers being baffled by stable-lads, and in consequence important information becoming public, detrimental to the interests of the establishments. The domestic economy of such institutions requires a good deal of study—the provender for the animals nowadays has become costly, and when thirty or forty boys and other servants have to be fed four times daily, the bakers' and the butchers' bills require a good deal of consideration.

Previous to the days of Mr. Thomas Dawson, of Middleham, training was done in the most haphazard

fashion, and, as has been hinted, every horse was treated much after the same fashion. That gentleman thought out new modes for himself, and taught his brothers to know that individual horses differed as much as do individual men and women, some having inordinate appetites, and some being poor feeders; some horses requiring much more work in training than others need. Mr. Dawson's teachings have borne good fruit: one of his brothers being lately at the head of his business, having a great establishment and a big string of horses, with undoubtedly a capable knowledge of his art, never perhaps evinced to greater advantage than in bringing Melton to the post (1885) in a condition to win the 'Blue Ribbon of the Turf.' The system of training now adopted by intelligent trainers is no doubt founded on experience, and is being gradually improved upon. When a horse is being prepared for a particular race, he is allowed plenty of excellent food, and is 'galloped' a mile or a mile and a half, as the case may be, once a day, at a daily increasing rate of speed, or it may happen that he is sent longer distances, according to the state of the particular training-ground on which he is prepared. The trainer of the horse is of course present to see him do his work, scanning keenly the animal's every movement, and if the horse's legs be under suspicion he will feel extreme anxiety till the animal is again all right in his box. Another morning of anxiety comes to the trainer when the horse has to be formally tried with 'something good' for the race for which he is being prepared. That well over, 'the stable' will begin to think victory within its reach;

but some days have still to elapse before *the* day arrives, and probably a long journey by railway will require to be undertaken, all of which bring more and more anxiety to the trainer—an accident may occur, or the journey may upset the horse, or he may be ‘got at;’ in short, ‘uneasy lies the head that wears a trainer’s crown.’

‘Brains’ are quite as much required in training as in other professions, and, as has been indicated, the trainer of to-day is more alert to what is required of him than were his predecessors of sixty years since. A yearling or two which have each cost £1,500 or £1,600 must not be entrusted to persons who are ignorant of their business, or they may never train into horses suitable for the business of the turf; nor is it every man who is fit to take charge of a trained racehorse which may have cost its owner £3,000 or £4,000, prices which of late have been frequently paid for horses in training. Another feature of modern racing economy may be here alluded to; namely, the constant travelling to which horses are now subjected, which adds considerably to the anxieties of trainers. Horses now travel by railway-train, and in the case of particular animals their corn, and even, in instances, their water, is taken with them, so that they may not suffer from a change of food.

Trainers have not escaped a share of those calumnies to which persons connected with the turf are all more or less subjected. Probably they are sometimes blamed when they are innocent of all offence, but it is quite certain that trainers have on occasion done things that would not bear the light of day. So have jockeys, as

all interested in horse-racing know. In all probability, the majority of trainers are most faithful to their employers; it is in their interests that they are reputed to do those things which they ought not to do. It is the public who suffer when a horse is 'stopped.' It may be left to others to argue or illustrate how far it is an offence, and of what magnitude, for a trainer to aid his employer in deceiving the public. That the public have often been deceived by various 'stables' on various occasions may be taken for granted.

Harking back to the old times and the old stories of training vicissitudes, numerous incidents and anecdotes might easily be collected bearing on the subject, biographical sketches having been published of some of the more notable of them. 'Black Jack' (Mr. John Lowther) would form a good subject for a sketch, but limited space forbids. The old school were firm believers in discipline, and brought up their lads in wholesome fear of the rod. The riders who were trained in the Yorkshire stables about the end of the last century were well acquainted with the biting qualities of the supple ash plant.

Mr. John Scott, of White-wall, may be cited as a trainer who began on the traditions of his art, and lived long enough to witness many of what were called 'new-fangled' practices. Born about the close of the last century, John Scott had attained the good old age of seventy-seven years at the time of his death, on October 4th, 1871. For a full half-century of his lifetime he figured as 'a feature' of turf-life. His father had also been in his day a trainer, and lived to the grand old age of a century minus three years. The

'Wizard of the North's' introduction to the great business of life took place when he was thirteen years old. Three years before that time he had, however, been found useful in the stables, and was allowed to ride at exercise. But, it has been said, his 'beginning' was being sent off to ride a race at a place called Blandford: the horse which he had to ride was named Tenbones, and his instructions were to ride the horse in the race for which it was entered, and then sell the mare to any person who would have her for £30. John was able to better his instructions, as he not only won the race, but obtained £50 for the horse, and came home triumphant by the coach—a very proud boy indeed. From that date fortune rained her best favours on John Scott, and in due time he blossomed into the great man he became, when he was known as England's foremost trainer. In 1825 he bought the house and stables at White-wall, and began a business there which speedily eclipsed all others of the kind. The hospitality of the distinguished trainer was inexhaustible. He kept open-house for his patrons and their friends. His stables and their surroundings were a sight. Some of the finest horses in the country were trained for their engagements by his instructions, and for a time he was almost invincible. He was much honoured by his dependents and friends, and was pointed out to strangers as a great man. Undoubtedly he was master of his business in all its branches.

An interesting chapter in any history of the turf would be that devoted to the Days, one of the great training and riding families of England. There have

been many Days on the turf. Old Mrs. Day, it is recorded, saw four of her sons riding in one race. The first, 'Honest John' of Danesbury, trained for the Dukes of Grafton. Alfred Day's name is famous in the annals of turf horsemanship; one of his races was on Andover, for the Derby, by the victory of which horse a great stake was landed for the patrons of the Stockbridge stable. The late John Day continued the fame of the family, training in his time many of the most famous race-horses of England; his name for a long series of years was as a household word in turf circles. The celebrated 'Old John Day' died in 1860; and there are still alive many who remember him dressed in his customary suit of solemn black, looking more like a clergyman than a man connected with a racing-stable. Years afterwards the John Day of more modern times died at Danebury. 'He was a man of genial disposition, kindly nature, hospitable, and an exceedingly amusing companion.'

As is well known, many of the men connected with the training of the Derby winners of the last half century are yet alive, and amongst the number are Mr. Alex Taylor, of Manton, and Mr. Matthew Dawson, of Exning, who had a horse running for the 'Blue Ribbon' half a century ago! Mr. Robert Peck, who trained for Mr. Merry, and Mr. Thos. Jennings, who enabled France to avenge Waterloo, are still living, also Mr. John Porter, of Kingsclere, who trained some of Sir Joseph Hawley's horses.

‘TATTERSALL’S.’

THE ‘dear delight’ of our sporting grandfathers is no longer what it was; at any rate, it is not to their grandsons what it was to them. Nor does it stand on the same spot as it did when ‘Tattersall’s’ was the undoubted centre of the English turf—so far, at all events, as the betting finance of racing was concerned.

‘I shall meet you at the Corner’ used to be a frequent formula for an appointment, and there were hundreds of persons in the betting world who gave no other address. ‘Will see you at Tatt’s,’ was all that was vouchsafed by persons who were winning or losing thousands daily at the different race-meetings. Nowadays settling at the Corner is but a phrase; for transacting turf business Tattersall’s has given place to another institution, the Victoria Club (and similar resorts), at which the greater portion of the betting and settling is accomplished. So that the Corner is the Corner in the old sense no longer. The horse-repository of the period is still in the hands of the family, but is now situated at Knightsbridge, not at Hyde Park Corner.

As a betting arena, more especially in connection

with the Derby, Tattersall's has paled its fires, betting being now mostly transacted at 'the clubs,' many of which have been so constituted as to admit of that class of business being carried on; and at these the chief bookmakers, or their representatives, may be seen, except, of course, when a race-meeting of more than usual importance is taking place, when the pencillers will be found in 'the rings,' those of them who never leave London excepted. When a commission is required to be executed, Tattersall's is no longer, as of yore, resorted to; the necessary transactions can be carried out at the Victoria or Albert, or other clubs, in which place a horse entered in the Derby, or in a big handicap, can be backed to win pretty considerable sums of money, quite as much, probably, as an owner may wish to bag over the victory of his animal. The betting which now takes place at 'Tatt's' is not a fiftieth part of what it was wont to be in the days of old, when tens of thousands of pounds used to change hands as if they were so many half-crowns. On days, indeed, when the 'betting at Tattersall's' is sometimes eagerly looked for, there is none, that renowned resort, as the newspapers proclaim, having been 'drawn blank.' One or two old-fashioned newspapers still, however, quote 'Monday's betting.'

Those who remember Tattersall's in the days of its greatness as the chief money-market of the turf, will long regret, as Admiral Rous once said, 'the disappearance of the old Corner, the gravel walk, the green lawn, the very cow—so emblematical of milk—and the plane-tree, under whose shade mysterious books have been scrutinized and judgment recorded.' At

one time or another Tattersall's has been frequented by all the famous turf-men of England; lords and 'legs,' peers and parvenues, priests and publicans, noble captains and ignoble cads, have each in turn strutted and fretted their brief hour at the Corner, which in its time was the scene of many a turf tragedy, the stage of countless intrigues, and the centre of numerous plots and contrivances. At one time or another racing men of all grades used to have business at 'Tatt's'; some who were not possessed of the *entrée* to the 'holy of holies' had to wait in the ante-chamber, in order to make or obtain their payments; and we have read of those who went to that famous resort to pay or receive their thousands, or tens of thousands. An old Scottish country gentleman, who was taken to the Corner by a friend, was heard on his return to say that nothing surprised him so much as Tattersall's. 'Thousands! absolute thousands! chinge frae man to man without so much as a "thank you" in return. I wonder where all the money comes from?'

In the year 1848 the number of subscribers to the subscription rooms at the Corner numbered 1,000 persons. At first the rooms were pretty much in the possession of a coterie of rich exclusives, but in time, as betting extended, and men wanted to win larger sums of money than they could do from their companions, the portals of Tattersall's required to be widened, and men were admitted to the sacred chambers who would not otherwise have been tolerated. My lord felt no scruples in betting with a man in Tattersall's, or on the race-course, on whom he would have scowled had he sought admission to his house,

even by the area-gate. When gentlemen wanted to back their horses to win big purses of money for the Derby, or any other event, it was convenient to find at their elbow a bookmaker ready to accommodate them; and many a heavy commission has been successfully worked at Tattersall's. Thirty years ago a writer gave indications of the immense sums of money which used to change hands at that famed resort, often enough to the extent of £100,000 on the settling-day after a great race:

'What a theme for the moralist and historian does that simple word "Tattersall's" open up! How fortunes have been won and lost in "the room," and how emperors, kings, princes, and the most exalted of the aristocracy of all nations, have rubbed elbows with dealers, "legs," "copers," and the lower order of the "ossitocracy" in general in the yard, would prove an interesting story.'

But apart altogether from the fame of the subscription-rooms which have for such a long period been attached to the establishment, Tattersall's is well worthy of having its history written. It is surprising that a volume of 'Memories' has not long since been devoted to its founder, and an account of the business (in horse-dealing) so long carried on, which is undoubtedly the most important of its kind. Sketches of the first Mr. Tattersall—'Old Tatt,' as he was fondly called by his familiar friends—and his celebrated horse Highflyer have been written, but the sporting public would undoubtedly read with relish an authentic history of the establishment, from the pen, say, of the present head of the house, or from

someone acting under his authority. The materials for such a work must be ample, and its interest would be great. Some member of the family might take this hint, and at once set to work.

The report of the dinner given in honour of the firm in April, 1865, has supplied materials for the following sketch. The chair on that occasion was filled by Admiral Rous, and over 250 persons were present at the banquet, the bill of fare of which comprised 100 dishes. In proposing the toast of the evening, the Admiral said it was not the duration of time, or the great trade which had been carried on, which commanded respect, but rather the probity and straightforward conduct which had always characterized the firm, from father to son.

From the speech of Mr. Richard Tattersall we obtain an epitome of the rise and progress of the firm :

‘ I am well aware that this high compliment which has just been paid us arises from no merit either of my own or my partners, but chiefly from a desire, natural to all Englishmen, to wish success to a business which has been carried on and conducted by the same family, and in the same locality, for so great a number of years. A higher compliment than this, I believe, has never before been paid to men in such a position. We are honoured by the presence of a great number of the nobility and gentry, and many who are unable to be present themselves have done us the honour of sending their race-cups for the occasion. It is now one hundred years ago—“ bar one ”—since my great-grandfather—who was best known to his

contemporaries by the name of "Old Tatt"—leased from the then Earl Grosvenor the piece of ground on which he established our business, long and familiarly known as The Corner, and by his honesty, uprightness and integrity he secured the respect and confidence of all who knew him. The then Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV., was a constant attendant at the establishment in the time of my grandfather, and it was by his own desire that the bust of his Majesty, which stood in the old yard, was placed there, where it remained until we were "turned out," and it is now "up" in our new yard at Albert Gate. I remember hearing many strange stories concerning the Prince and his companions at the old Corner. Among them, one of a post-chaise and four galloping into Newmarket at night, His Royal Highness riding the leaders and Charles James Fox the wheelers. My great-grandfather was succeeded about the end of last century by his son, my grandfather, who had likewise the reputation of being a man of strict integrity and honour, and who was also a good deal connected with the Prince of Wales, as he was for many years associated with the Prince as joint proprietor of the *Morning Post* newspaper. In 1810 my father and uncle succeeded to the business, which they carried on, I might say, with credit and success, for nearly half a century. No men, perhaps, were ever more popular with all classes, and no men, I believe, ever made more sincere friends; and among others I may mention the name of an English nobleman who was a model in every relation of life—the late Duke of Richmond. Time and the Marquis

of Westminster have, however, driven us out from our time-honoured locality, and we have secured a spot as near to the Corner as we could get; but although we have changed our habitation, we have not changed our principles, and we hope to be still honoured with the confidence and patronage which we have for so many years enjoyed. A hundred years ago horse-racing and betting were confined to noblemen and gentlemen, and bookmakers were as little dreamt of as railways or electric telegraphs. But bookmakers have since arisen, and horse-racing has become far more popular, even amongst persons in humble ranks, who some few years since would as soon have thought of keeping a tame elephant as a race-horse, or of "making a book." In 1815 my grandfather opened a small room for the accommodation of bookmakers, who had hitherto been accustomed to walk about the yard picking up a stray "pony" whenever they could. That room has become an institution of the turf; and in our new premises neither time nor money has been spared to make the room fitted for the object for which it has been erected. I attribute the great success of my family as being due to their untiring industry and integrity, and the uprightness of their dealings. My grandfather used to say that he told more lies than any man in England, but that, like those of a counsellor, they were all "briefed" to him. I beg, in conclusion, to thank the company for the honour they have done us by attending here this evening, and for the kind and confidential manner in which they have spoken of our firm; and I assure you that no effort on the part of either myself or my

partner shall be spared to merit your approval and to conduct the business as our predecessors have done. As long as I live I shall look back to this day as one of the proudest and most pleasant of my existence.'

Mr. Tattersall's speech may be supplemented by a few additional facts of an interesting kind :

The founder of the firm came to London, from some place on the borders of Lancashire and Yorkshire, the name of which has not been given, in the year 1743. He had been, when at home, a wool-comber, but was all his life fond of horses, and it is related that when he arrived in the great Metropolis he became a constant attendant at Beever's horse-repository in St. Martin's Lane. Whether or not he found employment there has not been stated ; but that he took a keen interest in all that went on at that place is certain, and that he, either during his visits to Beever's or at some previous date, had acquired a good knowledge of horseflesh is evident from his having been appointed to a position of great trust in the stables of the second and last Duke of Kingston. As training-groôm he remained in the service of that nobleman till the year 1773, in which year the Duke died.

Whether the celebrated livery-stables were opened at or before this date appears to be somewhat uncertain. Mr. John Lawrence, author of 'The Horse,' states that Tattersall's was opened in or about the year 1760 ; but in a paper contributed to the *Penny Magazine*, vol. xiii., the date is given as 1773. In this article the place is described as one 'where men of honour might congregate, free from the smell of the stable, and enjoy a view of the most beautiful

horses without being perpetually in contact with the jockey or horse-dealer.' The *Penny Magazine* of the period was evidently not highly endowed with the gift of prophecy; at any rate, the writer quoted was unable to foretell that a time would come when the jockey would often enough be the chosen companion of some of the highest in the land, finding admission, apparently on terms of equality, to the most exclusive drawing-rooms and clubs of London. Is it not the case that one or two fashionable jockeys of the period have been received at the 'at homes' of ladies of very high degree? However, to come back to our horses, it has to be recounted that Mr. Tattersall at once obtained success in his business. According to Mr. Lawrence, he was the proprietor of Young Traveller, a stallion, and also became in time the purchaser of Highflyer, a horse which was destined to have its name prominently emblazoned on the roll of turf celebrity. That the first Mr. Tattersall had greatly succeeded in his business at an early date is evident enough by the fact of his having been able to 'pay down' in ready money the sum of £2,500 for his fancy Highflyer, which was sold to him by Lord Bolingbroke. Indeed, the founder of the firm was so fortunate at the outset of his business as to obtain the high patronage and kindly countenance of several distinguished persons. One of his first important 'jobs' was the disposal of the Duke of Cumberland's stud on the decease of that royal Prince. It may be here related, in reference to 'Tattersall's' (the subscription-room, that is), that it was opened about the year 1789 with about seventy-six subscribers — among

whom were to be found some of the most distinguished names in the roll of the English nobility, the membership being kept for a time exceedingly select.

It may be taken for granted that the career of such a person as Mr. Tattersall will be surveyed with interest even in this bald sketch. The name of Tattersall is known wherever there is a horse. Richard Tattersall was the architect of his own fortune, and of the fortunes of his descendants; but he could never, seeing that he died on February 21st, 1795, have foreseen the extent to which the business he had begun would grow, or the enormous prices which many of the horses sold under the hammer of his grandson would bring.

The owner of the great horse and the fine Hall which was named after it was an eminently social and hospitable man, and drew around his fireside a select circle of the choicest spirits of the age. Men of high position did not disdain to partake of his fine old port. It was a proverbial saying among his friends that everything which old Mr. Tattersall touched turned to gold. He even became successful as a newspaper proprietor, being at one time a part proprietor of the *Morning Post*; but although that journal yielded what was at the time considered a large profit, he became dissatisfied with its management, and started the *Morning Herald* in opposition.

In his capacity of newspaper proprietor, Mr. Tattersall did not escape without a little taste of the *désagrémens* of that risky position: being convicted of a libel on the Duke of Richmond, he was imprisoned for a period of three months in the King's Bench. After

a few years' experience of the press Mr. Tattersall retired from the cares and anxieties of newspaper management, and went to live in his Hall, where, in the choicest language of the story-teller, 'he lived happy for a long period, and then died in the good graces of all men.' According to the fashion of the period, he was honoured with an epitaph, worded as follows :

'Sacred to the ashes of Richard Tattersall, late of Hyde Park Corner, in the county of Middlesex, Esq., who, by his indefatigable industry, irreproachable character, and unassuming manners, raised himself from an humble, though respectable, origin to independence and affluence. To the rare excellence of bearing prosperity with moderation, he by his inflexible integrity united (as he justly acquired) the exalted appellation of Honest Man, and continued uncorrupted even by riches. Thus universally respected and beloved by all who knew him he lived, and died as universally regretted on the 21st February, in the year of our Lord 1795, and in the 71st year of his age. But though his perishable part, together with this frail tribute to his ashes, shall decay, yet as long as the honest recollections of honest work, sociable manners, and hospitality unbounded shall be dear to the memory of man, the remembrance of him shall live, surviving the slender aid of the proud pyramid, the boasted durability of brass, and the wreck of ages.'

Harking back to 'the subscription-rooms,' it has to be recorded that the 'Tattersall's' of to-day has fallen somewhat into disrepute as a tribunal for the settlement of disputed bets. Till about the end of the year 1842 the Jockey Club used to take cognizance of

betting disputes; but at that date a resolution was passed that the club would not in future act in such matters, suggesting at the same time that disputes should be settled by reference, a referee to be chosen by each party, and, in the event of non-agreement, an oversman should be selected, whose decision should be final. So matters remained till 1858, when a number of rules—in all, nineteen—drawn up jointly by a committee of Tattersall's and the subscription-rooms at Newmarket were adopted, and similar rules, founded on these, are now in operation.

TOUTS AND TIPSTERS.

MANY interested in horse-racing, especially those who have been studying it for a period of twenty-five or thirty years, will remember that the sporting papers, about the time indicated, contained announcements from sundry persons anxious to foretell the winner of the Derby. The number of tipsters offering information was so large as to render it evident that the business was a paying one: all sorts of people put on the mantle of prophecy for a few weeks previous to the day set for the decision of the race, and, no matter that the majority of them proved false prophets, the tips they gave were greedily purchased, eagerly scanned, and frequently acted upon—to the gain of the tipster and the almost certain loss of his victims. Most of those who engaged in the business were, very likely, persons who knew nothing about the Derby horses, but were possessed of sufficient knowledge of the world, and of the fools who live in it, to be able to prey upon them with good effect.

Upon the occasion of a criminal trial some twenty-five years ago, it was elicited in evidence that a man who had been blind for the previous ten years had been acting (on paper) as a Derby tout and prophet.

This was surely a case of the blind leading the blind ; no matter, the prophet confessed that he made a good living out of the business. Many instances of good livings being earned by tipping might be given. At one time there would not be less than perhaps a hundred persons engaged trying to make the fortunes of their fellow-creatures, but when the daily newspapers began to give extended notices of turf matters, these gentry became in less request. A selection of advertisements relating to the Derby, extending over the last fifty years, would form a curious chapter illustrative of human folly. Some of the tipsters advertised that they had dreamt the winner, and that they would impart their information on receipt of half-a-crown's worth of postage-stamps ; others, again, wished it to be known that, by means of clairvoyance, they had ascertained the name of the horse which would win, and also another one, at a long price, which would obtain a place.

The Derby was selected by the adventurers as the best race to work upon, because of its strong hold on the popular affections of the people. Many persons bet a little over that event who never bet on any other race. There are men who say, ' I am not a betting man, but I do sport a sovereign or two over the Derby, win or lose.' A surprising amount of success often attended the bouncing advertisements of these tipster knaves ; it became known, in the case of one of them, that for eight days before the Derby he received about two hundred letters each day, every one of which probably contained twelve postage stamps, as also a stamped envelope for reply.

A rogue of the tipster kind carried on, for some twenty days before the great race, no less than eleven such agencies. One of his tricks was to advertise as a governess out of a situation, who had, while in her last place, obtained a grand turf secret—no less than the winner of the Derby—while acting as the amanuensis of her master; her terms were a fee of five shillings by post-office order; another dodge of this person was an advertisement purporting to be inserted by a clergyman, saying that he had obtained the names of the first three horses from a tout whom he had attended on his death-bed, the object of his advertisement being to provide a fund for the relief of the said tout's very destitute family. He also posed as a lady's maid who had discovered the name of the winning horse by accident, and who, for a fee of three shillings and sixpence, would tell all she knew. Other plans of this Napoleon of the art were of a commoner sort, but proved more or less successful. An active tipster takes pains to spread his favours over all the horses likely to run in the race, sending a different selection to each applicant, so that in the event of one of those he has named 'pulling through,' *i.e.*, winning, he can refer to 'the great success of his tip, and ask with confidence for the renewal of past favours, having something good in reserve for one of the big handicaps.' Those were the tipsters of thirty years ago, and even further back.

During the last fifty years, as has been hinted, the tips given for successive races for the Derby Stakes would form a curious collection, especially if they were to be liberally annotated with illustrative remarks.

Sporting journalists who could rhyme a little were wont to invoke the muse about the time set for the decision of the Derby, and it is no more than the truth to say that some of their poetic prophecies were admirably done; many of them not only gave the winner, but their selection was couched in beautiful language, when the difficulty is considered of working with so many different names.

It was in 1837 the poetical tips began: 'Vates,' a well-known turf-writer of that time, led off, scoring a brilliant success the first time of asking: his lines ended as follows:

'Tis over; the trick for the thousands is done:
George Edwards on Phosphorus the Derby has won.'

Among the poetic prophets, 'Orange Blossom' scored several successes, and so did 'Rhyming Richard' and many others. Outsiders who had no access to the press also set themselves up as poets, and recited verses made for the occasion, in tap-rooms of public houses and on the street. In some years the poetry apropos to the Derby was much more in evidence than in others; Blue Gown's year was one of them. One of the many doggerel songs which heralded the victory of Sir Joseph Hawley's Blue Gown is worth quoting, to the extent, at least, of the concluding verse, seeing that the ragged prophet who recited it, at The Cock, at Sutton, assured all who would listen to him that the poetry was his own, and that Blue Gown was a certainty. After going over all the probable competitors, his 'poem' wound up as follows:

‘ Yet thousands there be who profess to believe
In an easy-won victory by Sir Joseph’s Green Sleeve ;
But all ye gay gallants from London’s big town
Must shell out your gold on bonnie Blue Gown.’

That particular poet, it may be noted, was possessed of a wonderful memory. As the returning crowd from the Downs halted at The Cock to refresh themselves on their way home, he was there to remind them of his prophecy, and to solicit largess, a demand which many persons good-humouredly complied with, more especially those who had backed the horse.

Stray poetic tips on several of the chief events of the year still make their appearance in some of the sporting newspapers, but the practice is evidently falling into desuetude.

Coming to the present time, it may be asserted that touts and tipsters were never more industrious. Of this fact the numerous advertisements which constantly appear in the sporting journals afford testimony. They—the tipsters—offer people fortunes for a shilling or two, but the fortunes which emanate from these people are mostly made up of ‘rainbow gold,’ very evanescent.

The touts, of course, come first, making it their business to supply information more or less reliable, as to the work done by horses trained at Newmarket and other places. It then becomes the duty of the tipsters to generalize and utilize the reports of the touts, and pass them on to the public, either through the columns of the sporting press, or by means of letters, telegrams, and circulars. The various training quarters are regularly ‘touted’ by men well versed in their business,

probably bred to it, indeed—at least, in the sense of having been in some way or other connected from an early period of their lives with the ‘noble animal.’ Some touts have in their day been themselves owners of race-horses; others have been trainers; three or four have been jockeys. Many persons take to touting simply from love of the work; one industrious horse-watcher tells of himself that he was brought up to factory life; another, as may be gathered from his communications, carries on a tailoring business, whilst some are petty shopkeepers as well as touts.

At Newmarket a large number, probably half a hundred, of such persons find the business remunerative; one of the community boasts of the comfortable cottages he has been able to build from his gains as a horse-watcher. Another is reputed to earn quite £1,000 per annum at the work! As there are sometimes 1,000 horses training at ‘headquarters,’ it is sufficiently obvious that the touts at that great centre of the ‘sport of kings’ have their work cut out for them. There are probably about fifty training-stables situated in other parts of the country, the horses trained in each of which are watched perhaps by a couple of capable touts, who will report to their employers every day by telegraph as to the work done by the animals at exercise. As in other occupations, so in touting there are degrees of celebrity—there are touts *and* touts. Newmarket horse-watchers have before now become famous in their sphere of labour by their industry and success, undergoing day by day a great amount of personal trouble and fatigue in order to obtain information.

These men have been able sometimes to 'spot' a horse for a particular race many months before it could be run, enabling their employers to win considerable sums of money by backing the animal when a big price could be got against its chance. Anecdotes have from time to time been related of the tricks resorted to by touts to obtain information as to the training and trials of horses. Owners of race-horses as a rule detest touts, and when they have a horse to try for some important race, study to mislead them, or throw them quite off the scent, by putting fanciful weights on the animals taking part in the trial, and by other devices; but it is a difficult matter to baffle a tout. No matter whether the sun shine or the wind blow, the tout will be looking from some coign of vantage in an open drain, from a haycock or corn-rick, or from any spot where he can observe what is doing on the particular training-ground which it is his duty to watch. A certain nobleman once upon a time captured a body of touts, and had them driven in an omnibus to a distant town, where dinner had been ordered for them. In their absence an important trial was brought off, of which they were duly informed, too late, of course, to be of use to them. Some trainers have their training-grounds well searched by men and dogs, so as to be pretty sure their trials will not be overlooked. But even exceedingly vigilant people have been deceived. 'You need not mind that poor old mushroom-gatherer,' said a trainer to his men; 'she'll not know what we are doing.' But in that the trainer was wrong, the poor old woman being a tout in disguise, who saw all that he wanted to see, and so

was able to serve his employer by means of his ingenuity, and thereby put money in his purse.

The sporting newspapers, and many other journals as well, now give daily reports from the various training places, especially from Newmarket. It is not very easy to say how the work is accomplished. At Newmarket, the distances between some of the training-grounds being very considerable, more than one man is required for the work of the morning. As has been said, there are touts *and* touts. It is a proverb among the fraternity at Newmarket that 'those who lie in bed of a morning do no good for themselves;' and touts are occasionally heard of who are never seen on the training-gallops, and would hardly know a horse if they saw one. It is insinuated, in fact, that they 'make up' their reports at second-hand, having persons in their interest who supply them with information—of a kind. Several of the Newmarket horse-watchers not only 'tout,' they 'tip' as well, sending long letters to particular journals, giving a full and particular account of the work done, analyzing and comparing form, and ending with an expression of opinion as to which of the horses in a race is likely to win, while the daily purveyors of training intelligence each give their tip immediately previous to a big race; and it is not a little surprising to find the touts at Newmarket, Manton, Stanton, Kingsclere, and Malton each able to supply the winner of the same race! Touts are well paid, many of them earning a good deal of money, liberal presents being occasionally bestowed on them when they are able to herald a big

success, which some of the body will manage to do half a dozen times in the course of the season.

The wife of the great trainer at Malton used to aver that she was always glad to see the touts about, as it was a sign that there were horses on the ground worth watching; and in the palmy days of the 'Wizard of the North' there was always a little knot of these persons taking stock of all they could see. The 'Druid,' in one of his charming 'gossips' says Flying Dutchman was watched by a perfect regiment of them before the Derby, sixteen having been counted on one occasion waiting on the horse, and looking at it with hawks' eyes as it came out for exercise. A tout told the trainer that he had orders to watch the horse come out of its stable, and not to leave the ground till it went back. 'When Bill Scot (the famous jockey) lived near Knavesmire, his motions, whenever a trial at Malton was about to come off, used to be watched night and day. It was nearly impossible for him to steal away from York at any time without having them on his track.'

Another reminiscence given by the 'Druid' tells us that at one of the Yorkshire training towns a schoolmaster commenced as prophet to a London paper, and in the sequel it appeared that he had got all his information by writing letters for touts between school-hours. As showing the ingenuity of the touts, it has been told that one of them, disguised as a drover, obtained valuable racing information from a tradesman employed upon a job at one of the Newmarket racing-stables. The place was a public-house, and over a can of ale the painter said that a certain horse

which he described had walked, being quite lame, from one box to another: 'It had two white heels,' said the painter. That bit of information was worth a good sum of money to the tout.

An anecdote was printed some years ago detailing how a warder in one of the big prisons, who had under his charge the 'ne'er-do-well' son of a trainer, spent his holiday near Newmarket with friends of the convict, who by way of getting him favoured let the official into two or three good things, by which he made a sum of money sufficient to buy the goodwill of a public-house which had for a long time been the object of his ambition, as he had become heartily tired of prison life. A bolder game was played by a tout who, obtaining the use of a constable's uniform, told a trainer that he had come down from London to tell him that two noted characters had left for Newmarket on some evil mission. The supposed constable, who had come from Berkshire, was hospitably entertained and rewarded, but what was of greater importance to him, he learned a stable secret that he could not otherwise have penetrated. It was a clever dodge successfully executed.

The expense incurred by the newspapers of the period in the purveying of tips and racing intelligence runs undoubtedly in the course of the year into a large sum of money. Every daily newspaper of any consequence keeps a 'tipster,' or racing commentator, his duty being to give once a week a good long review of the past week's racing, and also to take a prophetic glance at the forthcoming meetings. The cost of the

sporting element will not perhaps be less—perhaps more—than £1,000 a year.

Sporting writers have a hard task set them. They are expected to be ‘there or thereabouts’ on the occasion of every great race, and many of them are called upon to give *tips* for the smaller every-day contests as well, so that upon occasions, such as in Whitsun Week, when there may be something like ten or a dozen meetings, their resources are taxed to the uttermost; and they must, too, be on their mettle, for at these holiday-meetings there are thousands of people who look to them for guidance and instruction in making their bets. Tipsters on such occasions are expected to work miracles on behalf of their clients, and should they fail to name the winners of at least two in every three races, they are stigmatized as humbugs not worth following. Yet how is a tipster to perform what is expected of him? In many cases he has only the public form of the horses to guide him, he is ignorant of the intentions of owners, and till the last moment ‘there is no market’ to show how the cat intends to jump. No wonder it so often happens that ‘the tipsters are floored to a man.’ Tried by the results of their tips, tipsters as a rule are a failure. Not that they do not on occasion make a palpable hit, selecting sometimes two out of the first three in a great handicap, but they don’t pay to follow systematically. That being so, it is not a little wonderful that their ‘vaticinations,’ as they call their writings, continue to be so anxiously looked for and eagerly read. Anyone desirous of backing horses for particular races may easily discover for himself all that is known about

the animal from 'the book'—*i.e.*, one or other of the annual or weekly turf-guides now so numerous.

The performances of each horse are set down with great accuracy in these repositories of turf knowledge, and for a few pence or a shilling or two they are open to all, so that there is nothing to prevent a man from becoming his own tipster. There are, of course, occasions when 'the book is a lie,' and therefore of no use, when a horse that has been running badly suddenly recovers its form and improves all at once some sixteen or twenty-eight pounds. No wonder, when such resurrections take place, the anxious prophets find themselves 'down in the dirt.' Even tipsters who supply a dozen papers, and give a different winner in each, are often on such occasions ignominiously 'flooded.' On some days the followers of a tipster may be fortunate, and back perhaps five out of seven of the winning horses in that day's racing, at such odds as are now allocated to the persons who do their business at what is called 'starting price,' which many people say is the price 'arranged' by certain persons who, being themselves extensive layers of the odds, put the figures at a point that will save their own pockets. Be that, however, as it may, backers of any particular man's tips are sure to come to grief, despite such brief glimpses of sunshine as they may occasionally experience.

How is it, will be asked by those who study the racing news given in the daily papers, that tipsters occasionally perpetrate such egregious blunders by selecting horses to win that in the end are nearer last than first? Take the case of the Oaks a few years ago, when a well-known special correspondent of a sporting

newspaper was afforded an opportunity of looking over most of the competitors, more especially the mare which won and the one which was second in the race. But as he did not fix on either animal as the likely winner, the question may fairly be asked, how he failed to do so. Like all the other tipsters on that occasion, he prophesied that the favourite would win, and never so much as gave a word to the winner. The favourite had doubtless that best of all recommendations—the best public form. But the public do not require the services of a ‘special’ correspondent to tell them that the horse possessing the best public form, and standing in the betting list at the shortest price, is the one that (on paper) seems most likely to win the race. As the saying goes, ‘any fool can follow the money,’ and it certainly needs no tipster to ‘spot’ the favourite. What a backer of horses stands in need of, but what he is never likely to get, is a person who on looking over a lot of horses will point out the one which, all being fair and square, should win the race. Jenny Howlet started at a very long price for the Oaks. Why? Because none of the tipsters tipped her. Why not? Why not, indeed! Several events could be easily recalled on which the most wonderful prophetic unanimity was exerted in vain, as, for instance, the Royal Hunt Cup of 1880, when the prophets were floored to a man over Ruperra.

Many other examples of tips which have been ignominiously wide of the mark during the last seven years might be culled from racing newspapers or from the prints which deal in sporting intelligence. If some of the tipsters would only condescend to give their

selections minus their reasons for giving them, they might, perhaps, be thought sensible writers, even when their prophecies come to grief. Imagine a tipster who would not entertain the chance of Robert the Devil for the St. Leger because in his opinion 'the horse could not stay'! Could not stay, and yet that horse was only beaten for the Derby by Bend Or by, perhaps, ten inches, and afterwards won the Grand Prize of Paris over a greater distance than the St. Leger is run over! A tipster fortunate enough to select Buchanan for the Lincoln Handicap led his followers an expensive dance by continually selecting throughout the year horses from the same stable to win the important races of the season. That tipster, at the close of flat racing, was 'nowhere' among his fellows. Many turf writers imagine that, because a stable begins well, its good fortune is sure to continue throughout the season; but it is an idea which very often brings those who believe in it to a condition of financial grief. It is scarcely worth while to occupy space with the failures of tipsters, they are so numerous, but a few samples may be given. A professional tipster wrote as follows of the Kempton Park November Handicap of 27th November, 1880: 'As to the bottom-weights, the Irish-bred animals Whist and Beauchamp II. [the winner!], they cannot go fast enough to keep themselves warm.' These remarks actually appeared in a paper having on its staff two sporting writers, which was issued on the morning of the race, and in which the scribe wrote of a horse which had been 'scratched' some days previously as if it were still in the race. Some years since there

was great fun over a tip for the Grand National Steeplechase. A well-known writer on turf matters said he would eat a certain horse if it won the race, and he was in the fulness of time put to shame by its victory. That tipster, as may well be supposed, was most unmercifully chaffed.

It may be accepted as a rule that public tipsters 'follow the money' in making their selections, or, at all events, select horses which are sure to be backed and in time settle down as favourites. It has been affirmed by some persons of certain tipsters, that they write in the interest of bookmakers, and give horse after horse that has no chance of winning, so that infatuated turf gamblers may back them. These writers have plenty of time to do so, as in many cases the race is not run for several weeks after the entries are published. Such accusations, however, must be received with the proverbial pinch of salt; but probably, from the persistent way in which they are reiterated, there is more than a grain of truth in them.

With what a wonderful scream of delight some hysterical members of the sporting press rend the air when they are so fortunate as to find themselves correct in naming the winner of an important handicap or some classic race. Be sure, in such an event, that in the next number of their journal they will fill nearly a column by quoting every favourable line they have written about the horse since it made its first appearance on the turf. Upon one occasion, the editor of a weekly sporting journal had the impudence to propose that his readers should subscribe to present

a testimonial to his Newmarket tout because he had been so fortunate as to predict the winner of one of the classic races! But, really, there was no merit in his doing so; other touts selected the same animal, but refrained from crowing over their feat. The tout now alluded to writes upon occasion as if he were infallible; in reality, he selects as few winners as most of his kind, and it is instructive to look back upon what he has written—after the event. It was amusing to find this great horse-watcher, when it was necessary to give a tip for the Cesarewitch of 1881, saying, 'They may back Robert the Devil that please, but I shall stand Big Jemima!' Of course he was 'not in it that time,' and when the race was run there were no jubilant quotations from former articles, pointing out the winner. With regard to the 'classic races,' as they are called, there is no merit in selecting one or two of the best two-year-olds to win the Two Thousand Guineas, nor is there much merit to be accorded to the tipster who selects the winner of the Two Thousand Guineas to win the Derby, should that horse be entered to take part in the race.

Besides the newspaper men, whose doings in tipping have just been reviewed, there are the circular men, who publish weekly sheets containing notes on past and forthcoming events, as also a programme of the coming races, each horse having a number attached to it, so that it can be referred to in an advertisement. There are at least half a dozen such circulars of a reputable kind among turf-men, as 'Locket's,' 'Judex's,' 'Mentor's,' etc. There are also some of another kind, which need scarcely be further noticed; it is so easy for

an adventurer who can command a couple of pounds to set himself up as a guide to backers of horses. Many such are now at work ; they generally last for a few weeks and then break down. As a rule they are persistent liars, and know as much about horses as they do about herrings. There is a knave of the kind who is constantly obtruding his mendacious advertisements on turf-men, always saying that his success is enormous, that his subscription-list is full, but that for the small sum of five shillings he will give a few more persons the benefit of 'his own exclusive information,' as well as let them share in the knowledge of the gentlemen who write to him from the various training quarters. Tempted to send your five shillings for that particular 'circular,' you find it is a fraud : there is nothing in it but what may be found in the *Sporting Chronicle*, *Standard*, or *Daily Telegraph*. In ten days or so 'the witch' writes you in piteous terms to add another half-crown to your subscription. 'You will never regret doing so,' you are told ; 'there is something to come for the back-end handicaps that will prove a fortune to all who subscribe to the Witch of Endor.' I wrote for the circular just to test it, and of course found it to be worthless. Some of the more dishonest of the tout fraternity, in their desperation to make a living at the business, claim every now and then to have spotted nearly every winner at some particular meeting ; in proof of which assertion they offer to send back numbers of their circulars to be examined by intending subscribers, and in more than one instance such persons have reprinted some of their 'back numbers' with no end of winning tips. By

such means flocks of fresh gulls are obtained and the purses of the tipsters filled. But by several of the circular men subscribers are dealt with in an honest spirit, and really receive something like value for the two guineas, which is the cost of the subscription. Besides those which have been alluded to, there is a perfect host of miscellaneous and 'fancy' tipsters, always at work struggling to earn 'an honest penny' throughout the racing year.

There are still a few of this class living who occasionally resort to these old-fashioned methods of bleeding the credulous; but the average backer of horses is too wide awake to fall readily into such meshes. As has already been hinted, the daily newspapers and the journals specially devoted to the turf, with their prophecies of the winners of races to come, their full reports of races past, and their columns of training intelligence, keep those persons who back horses fully up to the mark as to what is doing. They at least provide backers with the means of forming their own opinions; whilst, as has been stated, some backers keep a tout of their own, or, at any rate, receive special reports from a tout, so determined are they to make money at the game, which all who have tried it will confess to be a rather difficult task. Two or three of the fraternity indicated above, who stuck to one horse only, were rather successful in their prophecies. Nor did they follow the money. 'A country gentleman in temporary difficulties' sent Kingcraft for the Derby of 1870, and Favonius in the year following. In the year 1862, one of the advertizing tipsters gave Caractacus as the dream of his little girl,

who, although blind, *saw* the horse win with a boy on his back as pale as death. A person who had a secret of the turf in his possession, and who posed as an old railway-guard, sent Doncaster to all his inquirers, as certain to win both the Derby and the St. Leger—not a bad tip, certainly, seeing that the horse started at the remunerative odds of 40 to 1 for the Derby, and won the race, while for the St. Leger he was second to his stable companion, Marie Stuart. It is a curious fact of tipping and touting that greenhorns, who expend a shilling or two in the way indicated, have often on their first trial backed a winner.

With his more than thirty years' experience of tipsters and their work the writer is well warranted in saying 'they are a failure.' This is susceptible of easy proof. There is, for instance, a persistent bouncer in the line who advertises that last year he absolutely gave over 650 winners; but as racing goes on for over 250 days of the year, and seven races on the average are run each day (on some days there are three or four meetings going on), it is clear enough that his winners would not anything like balance his losers; as a matter of fact, this man's tips, like the production of Shakespeare at Drury Lane, spelt 'r u i n' throughout the year. This tipster, at the time this book was in process of printing, gave 31 horses for one day's racing (three meetings), and out of the lot he found three winners—one at 7 to 1, another was an even money chance, whilst the other started at odds on! But at the close of the season this man will probably be shouting with all his might that he has 800 winners to his credit for the season! After all, the eccentric

person was right who said that any sign of the morning that could by any process of twisting be brought to bear on any of the racing events fixed for that day, was just as good as a half-crown tip from a professional tout. In this category comes the story of the man who, finding that he had come into his place of business on a Derby morning riding on the knife-board of a 'Favourite' omnibus, accepted the circumstance as of good omen, putting therefore a fiver on the horse that had been made favourite, and winning his money!

If those who *will* back horses could first get a glimpse of the persons and surroundings of some of the beer-swilling and gin-consuming prophets to whom they entrust their shillings, they would at once be convinced they would serve their purpose as well by putting the names of the horses in a hat and backing the one they might first happen to draw from it.

The hack-tipster, as a rule, is an abject follower of 'the money,' and although some of the band deny that this mode of tipping is adopted by them, they unwittingly let the cat out of the bag in such phrases as, 'with no market to guide us,' 'but as the horse has not yet been backed, it would be unsafe to select him,' etc., etc. In fact, there are no tipsters who can honestly tip on any other system. When a horse wins a popular handicap, starting at the liberal odds of 50 or 66 to 1, the chances are that its name has never been mentioned by any of the tipping fraternity as being a likely winner, and on such occasions, as the phrase goes, 'the prophets are floored to a man.' Why, then, are there prophets, and where there are any, of what use are they?

Bouncing tipsters who so confidently and loudly assert that they do not follow the money manage matters in this way: When the weights for a popular handicap are published, they preliminarily select ten or a dozen horses in stables which are sure to be followed, and in due course backed by the public; then when the time comes at which they must bind themselves down to a specific selection, they name three out of the lot they had previously fixed upon, probably stating at the same time, 'In selecting these three for win and places, we cannot be accused of following the money, because, as our readers will probably remember, we took them on our side immediately the weights were published, and before there was any betting on the race.'

Weak-kneed bettors, with more money than brains, lean on certain tipsters with a surprising degree of reliance, considering how often they must be disappointed. As already stated, many of the principal newspapers of the day keep a tipster for the benefit of their sporting readers, and pay a large sum of money annually for racing information. The business of supplying the London and provincial journals with these tips and that kind of information is mainly at present in the hands of one gentleman, who, after paying his assistants, must derive from his labours a very handsome income indeed, as matter of the kind is paid for at a high rate.

New modes of distributing tips are every now and again adopted; in several cities and towns the selections of men who are supposed to be able to 'spot' three or four winners every day will be found on sale at places appointed about noon. These are largely in

demand, at prices ranging from threepence to a shilling, according to the number of prophecies given or the celebrity of the tipster. 'Paddock wires,' 'Special knowledge telegrams,' 'Latest information,' and several other varieties of the modern tipster's art can be obtained at prices suitable even to 'leanly furnished purses.' The anxious inquirer after winners can also communicate direct with distant touts by paying for their reply—the payment of a fee being as a matter of course included in the remittance. Tips for the day's races are now often hawked about the streets at the price of a penny or twopence, and, as all who frequent racecourses know, tipsters are rapidly becoming a nuisance, but the work is remunerative. One of the fraternity told the writer at a recent meeting that he could sell every day thirty or forty marked cards to 'the swells' at a 'bob' (1s.) each, and eighty, or perhaps a hundred, at sixpence apiece; 'but then you know, sir, I has all them cards to pay for, and that takes some of the gilding off the cake, I can tell you.'

‘THE FRENCH YEAR,’ 1865.

IN 1865 the name of the horse which won the Derby had not an English sound ; it was Gladiateur, who, in presence of the much-mobbed Prince of Wales, gained the verdict of the judge, and earned the ‘Blue Ribbon of the Turf,’ having behind him as he galloped past the winning-post twenty-nine opponents. The victory of the French horse will be long remembered by those who saw it. The success of Gladiateur—it is now twenty-five years since it was obtained—was not unattended by incidents of a sensational kind, which may be briefly noted for the information of those who know nothing about them. A hundred stories, indeed, might be related about the victory of Gladiateur, which afforded a subject of talk for many months to the turf-men of the time.

It was doubtless a veritable triumph for France to beat us at our own game, and on our own ground ; but we had our revenge in the Grand Prix. As has been hinted, there was much said during the French year, and much of what was said has been exaggerated in the chronicling. There was certainly, as has been again and again asserted, no consuming desire among British sportsmen to see the French horse beaten ; nor has it

ever been proved that any unfair means were resorted to to stop the animal from winning. There are persons who rejoice, no doubt, to see the downfall of a favourite brought about; but with these it is no question of nationality; they would as soon 'nobble' an English race-horse as a French one. There may have been a feeling of soreness, but it was certainly not apparent at Epsom; for as the horse came back, bearing his victorious rider to the scales, guarded by Inspector Tanner, cheer upon cheer was given in the heartiest manner. Count de Lagrange, the owner, was warmly congratulated by the noblemen and gentlemen present, and by none more warmly than by that best of English gentlemen, the Prince of Wales, who took a deep interest in the race. So far, then, as outward show was concerned, there seemed no fly in the Count's pot of ointment; and as regards the honours of horse-racing, he had every reason to be satisfied, inasmuch as he had in the preceding year secured the 'Garter of the Turf' with Fille de l'Air, whilst the Two Thousand Guineas had fallen to him by the prowess of the horse he had just led in at Epsom, a Cambridgeshire and a Goodwood cup having previously rewarded his enterprise. Many an English gentleman, after a long struggle, has at length retired from the turf without even taking one of these important races.

The precautions which for the first time were taken by the Epsom authorities to prevent any fraud being perpetrated may be here recited from a sporting chronicle of the period: 'Between the preceding race and the race for the Derby an interval of an hour was

allowed for the necessary preliminaries, which, on the present occasion, included a new feature, by special order of the stewards, so as to guard against any foul play or chicanery respecting short weights, which—it is a common talk in sporting circles—more than one winner of the Derby was supposed to have carried within the previous thirty years! The weighing was conducted with scrupulous minuteness, the saddle, bridle, and all the other riding paraphernalia being privately marked, and weighed separately from the jockey, whose bodily weight was also registered, after which he was weighed with his ‘gear’ in the aggregate; and to guard against the slightest deception, a body of mounted police had orders to escort the winner back to the Stand, where a detective would superintend the unsaddling, and conduct the jockey to the scale—a very proper precaution, it will be admitted on all hands, but affording sad cause for reflection that the whole system of racing has become so foul as to necessitate it.’

No sooner had the race been run than stories of many kinds were set afloat as to the money that had been won and lost. In the winnings the stake netted must, of course, claim a place; the purse taken by *Gladiateur* contained the handsome total of £6,875, whilst the Count was enabled to claim from the ring the sum of about £40,000, his trainer also winning a good amount—£13,000, it was stated; Count de La-grange’s commissioner won about as much, whilst a considerable number of persons were known to ‘land’ from £2,000 to £10,000 over the victory of *Gladiateur*, who, as may be surmised from the short price at

which he started, was largely backed by the public. Three of the larger bookmakers, it was said at the time, would have, at least, to pay between them £100,000. The placed horses were each well backed for a 'shop,' which they obtained, Mr. Robinson, in particular, pocketing £3,000 or £4,000 in virtue of his horse—Eltham gaining third position in the race. Some of the more astute Frenchmen backed Gontran to win the French Derby, and Gladiateur to win the Derby of Epsom, and had the good fortune to pocket considerable sums in consequence. Not a few curious stories have been told of the betting incidents of the race won by the French horse. One is told of an irate old Colonel who drew Gladiateur in his club sweepstakes; but as he could not believe in the possibility of a French horse winning our greatest English race, he prevailed on a member of the club to exchange tickets with him. Curiously enough, the member in question had himself drawn Breadalbane, but had been persuaded by a fellow-member, who had a strong fancy for that particular horse, to take Christmas Carol in lieu of it; that ticket for Christmas Carol he now passed to the prejudiced old officer, in exchange for Gladiateur, thereby winning the first prize of £100, the Colonel having, of course, to put up with the second prize of £40, as the reward of his unbelief and prejudice.

Many friends of Count Lagrange showed their faith in the French horse by backing it to win them pretty big sums of money, which, as he failed to win both the Prendergast and Criterion Stakes, they were enabled to do at somewhat long prices, those of them who were

prudent afterwards hedging when his victory in the Two Thousand had brought him to short odds. At one time in the course of the winter preceding the Derby 'any odds' might have been obtained against Gladiateur. A London wine-merchant, or rather 'gigantic publican,' founded his future on a triple-event bet, laid him by a bookmaker who frequented his parlour, against the French horse winning the three classic races. The bet laid was £2,400 to a case of champagne, and was duly paid on the Saturday following the St. Leger, the wine being consumed along with a huge pile of anchovy toast at the same time. When the bet was made it was thought the French horse would prove to be an impostor; and Liddington was first favourite for both races, while Broomielaw and Breadalbane, for which Mr. Chaplin gave £11,000, were each quoted at short prices, the former at 8 to 1 for the Guineas, the latter at the same figure for the Derby.

The following account of the race is from the pen of a competent turf-reporter who was present at Epsom on the occasion: After fully half an hour had been expended in several breaks-away, the flag at length fell at a favourable moment, so that a good beginning was ensured. It is hardly necessary perhaps to say that all had been on the tiptoe of expectation, some, indeed, on the rack, during the five or six false starts that had taken place. Popular feeling, in fact, was at white heat, the vast concourse of spectators who were looking on seeming to have but one heart and one head. The starter, whose every movement was keenly watched and criticised, had evidently re-

solved to do his very best to ensure that there would be no complaint from either owners or the public, and he certainly succeeded, as was afterwards universally admitted. The winner was in no way favoured, although, as may be well supposed, there were not wanting those who if they could would have favoured some of the English horses. Wild Charley, Mr. Merry's horse, was first off, but was at once held back by his jockey, and, illustrating the proverb, was almost the last horse in the race when the moment arrived for judgment to be recorded. Almost from the start the horses were so crowded together that some of them could not act. Tilt was seen in front till the mile-post was reached, and then Eltham, running vigorously, got his head in front and still further improved the pace. After passing the mile-post a 'scrimmage' took place among the second lot in the race; some of the jockeys in consequence using language to each other that was more forcible than polite. In the *melée* Wild Charley was greatly interfered with, and was actually at one place carried off his feet, and when released from his awkward position stumbled upon Archimedes, who in turn canoned against Gladiateur, and so much imperilled his chance for the moment that Grimshaw (his jockey) was compelled to pull him short up, which in turn interfered with Longdown. Toddleben and Braham were now brought to the front by their jockeys, and ran well among the horses that were leading. By the time that Tattenham Corner was reached the field was seen to be a straggling one. Christmas Carol on the inside berth came round in grand style, indicating that he had a fair chance of

being hailed the winner. Eltham also looked at this point like attracting the attention of the judge, having a good place on the lower ground. Longdown also got through his horses pretty well, and began to show in the race to some advantage, steered by John Osborne. And where all this time was the mighty Gladiateur, the destined winner of the race, will naturally be asked? He was simply biding his time, although he was rather far off to please his friends, many of whom were becoming anxious, whilst one or two were in despair. Grimshaw, however, was carefully nursing his horse, and when the supreme moment arrived he was among them as if by magic. Shouts were just being raised for Eltham, when French shot ahead of him on Christmas Carol, and then the cheers arose for the latter; but they lasted only for a moment, as the Frenchman came up at a rate of speed which looked (and was) wonderfully fast. The mighty crowd which was gazing on the scene held their breath for a moment or two, and then as Gladiateur stride after stride overhauled first Eltham and then Christmas Carol, a mighty shout rent the air as the Frenchman passed the judge winner of the much-coveted 'Blue Ribbon of the Turf' in 1865. Two lengths was the distance by which this memorable race was won, and 'Waterloo avenged.' The second favourite in the betting was Mr. Chaplin's horse Breadalbane, who made no show in the race, and was beaten by his less thought-off stable companion, Broomielaw; but Derby honours were in store for the owner of these animals, as in 1867 Hermit's famous race excited quite as great a sensation as that of Gladiateur. Kangaroo, the property of a

noted sportsman, ran 'nowhere,' and the Marquis of Hastings was not destined to be hailed the owner of a Derby winner.

As has been mentioned, the French horse had previously won the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes, for which, however, he did not start anything like favourite, Bedminster, Liddington, Breadalbane, and Kangaroo taking precedence of Gladiateur in the price current. In the race for the Guineas seventeen horses followed the victor to the winning-post, and of that number the following took part in the struggle for the Derby: Sir Joseph Hawley's Bedminster, which started favourite for the Two Thousand, but was only placed seventh; Le Mandarin, also the property of Count Lagrange; Archimedes, Breadalbane, Kangaroo, Tilt, Ariel, Rifle, and Joker. Of the race for the Guineas, we were told at the time that 'Gladiateur, without being called upon in earnest, maintained the best of it to the end, and won very cleverly, if not easily, by a neck from Archimedes, Mr. Merry's horse Liddington being third.' At the stud, to which he was relegated after his wondrous successes on the racecourse, Gladiateur proved a sad failure; yet the Count in the year 1869 refused the big sum of £16,000, which Mr. Blenkiron, the well-known breeder, offered him for it, but that gentleman became ultimately his owner a year later, when he bought the horse at less than half the money.

When Lagrange died, the event was of course utilized by our literary turf-men, while recording the achievements of his horses, to rechronicle the scandals which they said were the accompaniments of his racing

career. Things were done openly on the turf by the Count, we were told, which were the reverse of straightforward; he certainly did not race in a spirit of chivalry, and more than once the running of his horses provoked a popular outbreak. Count de Lagrange raced in the grandest possible fashion. In his best days he was a giant on the turf, and his stud must have cost him for several years an enormous expenditure. According to Mr. Corlett, his racing field was a large one; it was bounded by Newcastle on the north, and Marseilles on the south; Baden-Baden on the east, and Brest on the west. Such a stable as his had never before been known, his training and incidental expenses having on occasion been as much as £50,000 a year. Such a man could not afford to throw away a single chance — he would require, in order to meet such a vast expenditure, a good deal more than what he could obtain in stakes, even when the race was a Derby or St. Leger. In 1865 he won £25,000 in stakes alone, and probably four times that sum would not represent the favourable balance presented in the pages of his betting-book.

Gladiateur's career on the turf brought his owner a sum of over £30,000, but in his day the Count had other horses which put money in his purse, notably Fille de l'Air and Chamant, the best animal, probably, that ever his stud contained. In 1876 that horse was the hero of the Middle Park and Dewhurst Plates, and in the following year he would, in all probability, had he not broken down a few days before it was run, have credited his owner with a second 'Blue Ribbon.' His victory in the Two Thousand Guineas undoubtedly

foreshadowed another Derby and St. Leger triumph for Count de Lagrange. 'Had not Chamant broken down,' said Lord Falmouth, when Silvio won for him his second Derby, 'Archer would not this year have ridden his first Derby winner.' The Count also won the St. Leger with his horse Rayon d'Or — which many persons said ought also to have won the Two Thousand and Derby.

That the French horse had a year in hand when he gained the Derby was, with many persons, a solemn belief, and the owner of Regalia (Mr. Graham), both before and after the St. Leger was run, demanded an examination of the horse's mouth; but the stewards of the meeting declined to accede to the request, 'unless Mr. Graham would state in writing his grounds for supposing the horse was not of the right age.' There can be no doubt that in thus disputing the age of Gladiateur an indignity was put on his owner. As a public writer of the period said, in commenting upon the race for the Derby, 'there can be no question that by far the best horse won; and the imputation of the winner having a year in hand is only the idle gossip of those who are ignorant of the fact that it is necessary to register the birth of every foal bred in France, with its distinguishing marks, to entitle it to run for the Government and other prizes.'

When Gladiateur won the St. Leger, all Yorkshire roared approval; the shouts sent up by the 'tykes' were deafening indeed, and had Count de Lagrange valued the approval of the tens of thousands who welcomed the victory of the Frenchman at Doncaster, he might have gone home a happy man; but he took

fortune as it came to him—good or bad—with much equanimity.

In the Two Thousand Guineas of 1864, Fille de l'Air, which started first favourite at odds of 9 to 4 against her, was the absolute last in the race, to the great wonderment of her backers. To the inexpressible disgust of Edwards, her jockey, the filly was 'out of it the moment the flag fell.' Severe comments were made on the form of the Count's filly: 'For to suppose that Fille de l'Air, the best animal of her year in October last, and pronounced to be invincible by her own trainer on the very morning of the present race, has trained off to the veritable *rosse* her performance to-day indicates, is too ridiculous for a moment's consideration. There was a scene at Epsom, when, the filly having won the Oaks, her jockey returned to weigh in, which those who saw will long remember. To the mob, the victory of the Count's mare, after what had taken place in the Guineas, was most unpalatable—but why the ill-natured thousands who groaned and yelled should have selected the rider of the horse as the object of their wrath is difficult to understand, because if there was any "manipulation of the mare" in connection with the race for the Guineas, it is not in the least likely that the jockey would be taken into the confidence of the criminals; some good judges, indeed, were of opinion that no crime had been committed, but that the mare had for the time lost her form. At some future time we shall probably get to know "all about it"; but it seems passing strange that such a stake as rewards the winner of the Two Thousand Guineas—in this instance £4,400 was the net

value—should not have been thought worth picking up. The explanation probably lies in the fact that, at York Spring Meeting, odds of 10 to 1 were quoted against the Count's candidate for the Oaks; later on, in the season at Bath, 1,900 to 300 was taken about Fille de l'Air—about which enough has now been said.'

The confederacy of gentlemen of which Count Lagrange was at one time the moving power conducted their operations in a business spirit, so that they were able to put money in their purses. For popularity they cared nothing—the horse, to them, was simply an instrument to gamble with. It is not pleasant to have to speak evil of a dead man who can give no explanation, and who can offer no defence, and it is quite possible that, had he chosen to do so, he could have shown that no action of his was in the least degree wrong—at all events, he quite disregarded any insinuations that were made against him, ever looking on at the great game with a pleasant countenance.

‘THE AMERICAN YEAR,’ 1881.

THE racing sensations of 1881 were the victories in the Derby and St. Leger of Mr. Lorillard's horse, Iroquois, and the winning of the double event—Cesarewitch and Cambridgeshire—by Mr. Keene's Foxhall. After these events had taken place, sporting writers began to speak of the ‘American year,’ and sporting journals became filled with gossip incidental to the subject.

Mr. Lorillard, the owner of Iroquois, was of course ‘biographied,’ interviewed, and described; his trainer, Jacob Pincus, was written about till the subject became quite stale. The pedigrees of the winning horses were traced, the system of preparation adopted by American trainers was compared with our system, and when these topics were exhausted, ‘the American plunger’ was set upon, and his doings on our race-courses remorselessly chronicled and commented upon. Turf-writers, although they admitted our best horses had ‘gone down like ninepins before the representative animals of the great Transatlantic Republic,’ were fain to take refuge in the excuse that the English race-horses, which competed in the American year as three-year-olds, were a ‘very moderate lot,’ and, in

consequence, Iroquois and Foxhall were exceptionally lucky. That is but shabby reasoning. Iroquois could only beat the horses set against him, and if 'he never met a really first-class three-year-old, as sound in wind and limb as himself,' that is due to the fact of English owners not having entered any such—if any such were that year in existence. It was forgotten by our turf-writers, in their anxiety to keep up the credit of Old England as a horse-breeding nation, that the mighty Bend Or was well beaten, in the Cambridgeshire, by Foxhall, at a difference of 8 lb., the one being a three-year-old and the other a four-year-old. True, previous to that, in the City and Suburban, the English horse gave the American 34 lb. and a beating, but after that Foxhall won the Grand Prize of Paris, and, in all probability, could have beaten Bend Or in their October struggle at level weights. One or two of our racing commentators became alarmed at the future prospects of our English horses, because of what had been achieved by the Americans, but, happily for their own peace of mind, they soon calmed down.

The story of the Derby taken to America by Iroquois can be easily told. It was anticipated by at least one of our best-informed racing commentators (Mr. John Corlett), that sooner or later the Derby winner would be a horse hailing from America, and his prophecy was probably more speedily fulfilled than even he expected. Peregrine's easy victory in the Two Thousand Guineas led, of course, to his being first favourite for the Derby of 1881, for which his quotation at the start was pretty nearly even money, 6 to 5 against him being the exact figure, whilst

11 to 2 was betted against the chance of Iroquois, who was ridden by the first horseman of the day—Fred Archer. The race for the Derby saw the same horses first and second as in the Two Thousand Guineas, but with this important difference, that their positions in the race were transposed. In the Guineas Peregrine won with great ease, beating Iroquois by three lengths, Don Fulano being third. The verdict of the judge in the Derby, as interpreted by the compilers of our turf-guides, was, ‘Won somewhat easily by half a length’; but those who witnessed the finish of the struggle were somewhat uneasy, as it appeared that at any moment the other horse might prove the better animal of the two; as the late Mr. Merry used to say on such occasions, ‘it’s rather too close to be pleasant.’ Jockeys, it is said, like that sort of work, and some of them, we are told, are such adepts in the business as to be able to win by a short head, having, in turf parlance, ‘a little bit up their sleeve’; it is much pleasanter, however, to see one’s fancy secure a race by a length than a short head, which means only a distance of about six inches.

So little was the chance for the Derby of the American horse esteemed, that between the date of that race and the Two Thousand Guineas good odds were to be obtained against its chance of winning; at one time, indeed, it was easy to obtain as much as 25 to 1. Two wins at Royal Ascot—one in the Prince of Wales’s Stakes, and the other in the St. James’s Palace Stakes—coupled with the fact that Archer would be again in the saddle, tended to keep Iroquois

at a short price for the St. Leger. One of the factors in the comparatively short figure at which the horse was ultimately backed for the Derby was comprised in the circumstance that Archer would be his rider, and as showing the importance attached to having such a horseman on his back, the mere rumour one day, that Archer was 'not to ride,' led to the horse's declining in the market to the extent of two points. Rightly or wrongly, the services of the jockey in question were thought of such importance that the rumour of his having 'the mount' on any particular animal proved at once highly favourable to its market status.

Iroquois won the great St. Leger Stakes by the distance of a length from the horse which was second, Geologist. Previous to the day of the race, from the time of the York Meeting, in fact, what may be called a 'dead set' was made against the horse in the market. One or two bookmakers, as the saying goes, 'never left him,' but continued their deadly fusillade almost to the hour of the race. No person could understand why Iroquois should be the victim of such formidable opposition. Some there were who insinuated that when the horse appeared at the post it would be seen that he was not half trained for so severe a race; this was said, too, in the face of a report made by Archer, who had ridden him a fine gallop on the Saturday before he left for Doncaster, on the Town Moor of which the race is run. That report being to the effect that his jockey was perfectly satisfied with the horse and the condition in which he found him. Pincus, his trainer, did not make much of 'a show' of

Iroquois in his morning gallops on the St. Leger course; on the contrary, the horse was rushed through his work, and hurried back to his stable, almost before any person had an opportunity of looking him over. This fact strengthened an opinion that had gained ground, that the horse was a 'stiff 'un,' and there is no doubt that among the majority of racing men he was looked upon in the light of a 'market horse'—of being, in fact, already numbered with the deadest of the dead.

Never before had there been a St. Leger favourite about whom there was so much money to lay. An owner of horses of some repute, it is said, was pressed by a well-known bookmaker to accept £4,000 to £1,000 just before the race. He declined the bet, unwilling to be 'had' with his eyes open. If the horse at any time seemed to rally, the deadly tide of opposition again began to flow, and the waves seemed to increase in strength. As a Derby winner and as a victor at Ascot, on the morning of the St. Leger Iroquois ought to have been at even money in the betting, instead of at prices which varied from 7 to 3 to 1. Those who had backed him on the strength of his Derby win gladly got quit of their money at a loss; as one gentleman told the writer, 'they shook it all out of me, at a price that entailed a large loss.' Three of the best-known trainers at the great seat of training were publicly heard to assert 'the horse had not the ghost of a chance,' and whilst the training reports announced that Iroquois was undergoing a fair turn of work, galloping daily a good distance, private gossip was busy with an opposite story, and at the

clubs the belief was fully entertained that the American would be easily beaten.

This has often been so; similar 'dead sets' have been made on horses before, and the performance of the animal, as in the case of the American, has given the lie to the actions of the enemy. But it has to be confessed that when the 'undertaking' machinery of the turf market is set going it has usually but one result: the horse operated upon, to describe what occurs in an unoffensive way, 'does not win.' The 'death's head and cross-bones men' rarely act without orders. The 'chief grave-digger' only opens his mouth for doom: either he or some friend of his has 'the key of the stable' in which the sickly horse is housed; but no fellow could understand why Iroquois should have been given over to these ghouls just before the great race which would set the seal upon his fame. Nor has the mystery which attended Iroquois at Doncaster ever been solved. Granting that the colt had retained his fine form and his good health, why should Mr. Lorillard not desire that the value of the animal should be enhanced by a victory on that battle-ground which had seen over a hundred equine fights, in which the combatants were of unsurpassed ability for speed and stamina? Why, indeed?

Suffice it to say that when the hour came the steed was ready and was not found wanting. At the last moment the betting settled down, and Iroquois started for the St. Leger as first favourite, the price offered being 2 to 1. The story of the struggle need not be retold. An exciting race between Geologist and the American resulted in the victory of the latter, well

ridden by England's greatest jockey, by a length. The win was a popular one, as Iroquois was seen to have the race in hand. The excited shouts of 100,000 persons rent the air; the cheers resounding again and again as Archer brought his horse into the enclosure: all present seemed highly gratified at the result of the race, and the defeat of those birds of evil-omen which had croaked a few short hours before, as if the disgrace of the gallant American steed was a certainty.

Some backers of the colt never faltered in their loyalty, the more Iroquois was decried, and his chance made light of, all the readier they seemed to back their opinion with their money. When the horse was seen stripped for the race, all men who could judge saw in a moment that he was as fit as hands could render him, and many of those who had hedged their money at a loss because of the evil reports which had been so industriously circulated, would have been glad enough to have again backed him could they have the opportunity; but, alas! it was too late; they were wedged in the dense mass of people who filled the stand, and had no alternative but to patiently wait and see Iroquois credit Brother Jonathan with his first St. Leger. During all that took place the quiet confidence of Jacob Pincus never faltered. Some persons were so bold as to suggest that he might have been bought by 'the enemy,' but Jacob went on with his training duties, heeding not the idle rumours; and who will say that his reward was not a great one, as he proudly led the steed into the paddock after the supreme excitement of witnessing the race had been endured?

Foxhall, as all persons versed in the lore of the turf are aware, lost the City and Suburban Handicap, run at the Epsom Spring Meeting—having met his conqueror in the gallant Bend Or, a Derby winner of the year before; but after the lapse of a few weeks Mr. Keene's horse crossed the Channel, and won the greatest prize of the French turf, the Grand Prize of Paris, a race the value of which is seldom surpassed even by the Derby; in 1881 the stake amounted to £6,374, besides the amount which might be won in bets. Tristan, the horse which was second to Foxhall in the Grand Prize, has since proved himself a steed of metal; so also has Fiddler, the fourth in the struggle, thus demonstrating that the animal which secured the trophy, as, indeed, was afterwards proved, was a horse of mark and merit.

But a grander *coup* was accomplished when Foxhall scored the double event of Cesarewitch and Cambridgeshire. These are undoubtedly the two greatest races of the handicap order which are run in England, and for one horse to secure both events with the weight carried by Foxhall was an altogether unexpected feat. In the Cesarewitch he was loaded with 7 st. 12 lb., which, for a three-year-old, was a sufficiently heavy impost when the distance over which it had to be carried is taken into account. Robert the Devil, also a Grand Prize winner, and a victor in the St. Leger as well, had won the previous year's Cesarewitch, carrying the unprecedented weight of 8 st. 6 lb., a weight which many persons, supposed to be good judges, asserted it was 'impossible' to win with; but the horse won, nevertheless. When Julius, a three-

year-old, and a placed horse in the St. Leger of 1867, secured the Cesarewitch, carrying 8 st., it was considered a marvellous result. Having earned a penalty, Foxhall, with 9 st. on his back, beat thirty-one horses, and won the Cambridgeshire, one of the greatest turf events ever celebrated in England. Blue Gown, a Derby winner, could only manage in 1868 to obtain the second place with a similar weight. The double event of Cesarewitch and Cambridgeshire had only been once before achieved, when Rosebery won both handicaps: the Cesarewitch carrying 7 st. 5 lb., and the Cambridgeshire with 8 st. 5 lb. on his back. That horse was a four-year-old.

The money won in stakes by the two famous American horses is worth noting. Iroquois ran nine times, and only lost two races, and in these he was second and third respectively. He won the following sums:

Newmarket Stakes	-	-	£275
Burwell Stakes (w. o.)	-	-	180
The Derby	-	-	5,925
Prince of Wales's Stakes	-	-	2,800
St. James's Palace Stakes	-	-	1,500
The St. Leger	-	-	5,450
Newmarket Derby	-	-	675

Being a total of - - £16,805

The sum credited to Mr. Lorillard by the turf statisticians is £18,787; but the above are the figures contained in 'Ruff's Guide,' to which must, of course, be added a sum for the second horse in the Two

Thousand Guineas. Mr. Keene, by the same authority (Ruff), won a sum of £5,216, besides the value of the Grand Prize of Paris. Foxhall ran upon seven occasions, and scored five wins :

Grand Prize of Paris	-	-	£6,374
Grand Duke Michael Stakes	-		747
Cesarewitch	-	-	1,287
Select Stakes	-	-	445
Cambridgeshire	-	-	2,017

Making a total of - - £10,870

When these great stakes had been won, the American horses came in for some criticism, and venturesome persons began to predict a great career on the English turf for Transatlantic sportsmen, just the same as they did for Frenchmen when Gladiateur carried off the triple event of Guineas, Derby, and St. Leger ; but we have not yet seen on the English turf another Gladiateur.

An American writer wrote the following very sensible remarks on this part of the question :

‘In considering the chances Mr. Lorillard’s stable will have in England, writers for the press do not take into consideration the vast odds against him. It is the height of folly to expect a single stable, with only some two or three tried horses in it, to go to England, meet an army of race-horses, and beat the pick and best of that country, France and the Continent of Europe. We do not believe the English could bring a single stable here and beat the best of this country, and it is a still harder matter to go there and beat

them, as they have three times as many race-horses in training. As an illustration, take the number of foals dropped annually in England, to say nothing of France, Germany, Austria, and Hungary, and then weigh the chances of a single stable against them. In 1874 England bred 1,606 colts and fillies, in 1875 bred 1,620, in 1876 bred 1,628; total living foals for three years, 4,854. In 1874 we bred in America 336, 1875 bred 409, and 1876 bred 604; total living foals for three years, 1,349. Here is a difference of nearly four to one in favour of England. Now, is it reasonable to suppose that America can breed and produce a better or greater number of first-class race-horses from 1,349 foals than England can from 4,854? Is our stock of sires and brood-mares superior to hers? Does it look reasonable that we can select a single representative, or a half-dozen, send them to England, unacclimatized, and beat them? Parole, Duke of Magenta, and Uncas will have to meet the best of the foals of 1874, 1875, and 1876; and is there any certainty, and does it not look improbable, judging by public performances, that Parole can beat such horses as Silvio, four years, who recently gave Start, four years, 22 lb., and an easy beating; and such horses as Verneuil, Lady Golightly, Julius Cæsar, Pageant, and Norwich, for it is against such he will have to run? Can Duke of Magenta beat, weight for age, such as Jannette, Insulaire, Thurio, and Sefton? and can Uncas beat Wheel of Fortune, Peter, Cadogan, Strathern, Gunnersbury, Ruperra, Rayon d'Or, Leap Year, Charibert, and a number of others of almost equal merit? That Mr. Lorillard's stable will be suc-

cessful in England, with the odds against them, to say nothing of the climate, change of feed, water, etc., is like hoping against hope; and those who have lauded them to the skies, and built up expectations not to be realized, will have to answer to a disappointed public.'

Jacob Pincus, the trainer of Iroquois, came in for a large share of observation on his arrival on the Newmarket training-grounds. The ways of American trainers are not as the ways of Englishmen following the same pursuit. Jacob was well versed in his business, and had served a long apprenticeship before arriving in Europe. Twenty-six years ago he rode Mr. Ten Broeck's Pryor in the first race he ran; he filled the saddle for various other American breeders and owners of horses, and in his time has superintended the training of some of the more notable Transatlantic race-horses. Pincus has the great merit of 'making' Iroquois; and the colt gave his trainer such a vast amount of trouble as to render his work no sinecure. The horse had as a two-year-old undergone a severe ordeal, having been called upon to run twelve races, some of them, too, with very heavy weights upon his back. Various ills overtook the horse—swelled knees, indigestion, loss of appetite, etc.; but care and attention brought him round, till ultimately Pincus led him in as a winner of the greatest English race. Meantime, Barrett, in the same stable, became a public fancy. Passaic was also trained in the American stable at one time, but was parted with; and it may be somewhat mortifying to those who once owned him that he proved good enough to win an important handicap.

As has been already told, Iroquois ran in the Two Thousand Guineas, gaining second honours in the race, a position that, considering the sickness the animal had encountered, his trainer, perhaps, scarcely expected he would gain. Pincus, as soon as the Guineas had been decided, commenced to give Iroquois his Derby preparation. He was laughed at. No person had ever before seen a horse trained for the great Epsom struggle in the same fashion; touts and newspaper oracles were amazed at the style adopted by the American trainer; they at once predicted failure. But Jacob carried on in his own way; criticism had no effect upon him; he saw that day by day the horse was ripening for the great effort which he would be required to make, although he was not over-sanguine of success. Pincus, however, soon became aware that if he was to win the Derby for Mr. Lorillard, it would not be by means of Barrett, who was never able to beat Iroquois in any trial that took place. Still, the public *would* back that horse; piles of money came from America, and from places nearer the scene of action, all of it for Barrett, much to the gain of the bookmakers. It is to the credit of Mr. Matthew Dawson, of Newmarket, and shows his discrimination, that he discovered in Iroquois, at an early period of his career, the makings of a Derby victor; and in spite of the gabblings of professional and other touts, backed the horse to win him some money. The trainer's best reward was in seeing his horse win the great race. But Iroquois was called upon to perform a feat which no Derby winner had ever succeeded in accomplishing, and that was to win

the Prince of Wales's Stakes at Ascot, over one of the most trying courses in England; and the horse did all that he was asked to do on that occasion: he won the race, which was even denied to Lord Lyon, who was compelled to put up with second honours to Rustic. When in health Iroquois never tired of work—that was one of the things he never got enough of—nor did he ever tire of eating the good Scotch oats on which he was fed. All who took an interest in Iroquois may rest assured that had it not been for Jacob Pincus the horse would never have cut that figure on the English race-courses that has made him so celebrated.

A feature of the American year was the success of Mr. Walton—'the plunger,' as he was called. The word in question is applied to persons who bet in large sums; and the bookmakers as a body are not at all slow to do business with the 'plungers,' as it is a tradition of the fraternity that they are sure to get all the money won by a 'plunger' back again, and much more in addition to it. Mr. Walton, the American 'plunger,' has told his own story, the relation of his adventures on the English race-courses as a backer of horses having been made to one of the gentlemen who interviews celebrities of all kinds for the *New York Herald*. Some of Mr. Walton's confessions are not a little astounding; in the first place, there is the magnitude of his winnings—these amounted to £93,000 *net* money. Mr. Walton's perseverance in seeking information attracted the attention of our English turf-writers. He was accused of bribing jockeys or other persons, in order to obtain the requisite know-

ledge before investing his cash on any particular horse; but if he did so, he is certainly by no means the first turf-gambler who has done so; and why English turf-writers should have worked themselves into such a state of misery about a matter that has been carried on for years, and is practised every day by Englishmen, is one of those things that no fellow can understand.

The *morale* of such procedure is the same whether the sums expended in bribes or rewards be large or small. Here, however, is 'the American plunger's' own view of the matter: 'The man who starts speculating on horse-racing with the idea that his unaided judgment is going to lead him on to fortune will soon find himself at the end of his financial tether, no matter how big a bank account he may start operating with. Now, I have been bitterly attacked by certain sporting papers for giving jockeys money and paying for any information legitimately obtainable that I thought worth having, but in so doing I claim that I am only protecting my interests in a manner that I have a perfect right to do. Do you suppose that a bookmaker has never given a jockey money to lose a race? Well, when I back a horse to win me, say, £5,000 or £10,000, I can afford to insure myself by promising the jockey £1,000 if he wins. Now, the bookmaker cannot afford to give him any such sum, even if he were willing to be bought, as often I have only £1,000 or so at stake, while I stand to win £10,000. Don't run away with the idea that I wish to imply that all the bookmakers and jockeys are in a conspiracy to rob the backers. There are plenty of jockeys like

Archer, Cannon, and Wood, and poor M'Donald and Watts, Barrett and Osborne, whom no money could buy, and hundreds of bookmakers who are as 'square' as brokers and bankers; but, as I say, I choose to anticipate a certain amount of my probable winnings in the way of insurance, and whether that has anything to do with what you call my phenomenal success I must leave you to judge.'

Further says Mr. Walton, in his frank, off-hand way: 'We surely have a right to presume that when a gentleman starts a horse for a race it is his intention to win if he can. Very well, then, he cannot take up the position that I have paid his servants to disobey his orders, and why I am not at liberty to express my admiration for a brilliant piece of horsemanship by a substantial money gift, just as actors and singers are often loaded with handsome presents by persons other than those who pay their salaries, I am at a loss to understand.'

An account of the American year would certainly have been incomplete if it had contained no reference to the doings of Mr. Walton. The story of the American's interview with an honourable baronet who lost his temper because Walton had 'dared' to back his horses was told at considerable length by the 'plunger;' but as that irascible but kindly-natured gentleman has in all probability repented the part he played on the occasion, the incident shall not be further perpetuated here.

BOOKMAKING.

I.

‘HAD there been no bookmakers,’ said John Gully, ‘the Derby never would have become what it is.’ That saying is, of course, applicable to the turf generally, and may be accepted without comment. The professional bookmaker stands up to be shot at by all comers, and goes on laying the odds at varying prices on every race of the season till the horses start, and on some occasions even as the animals are running.

Of late years bookmakers have been well abused, having been described by one turf-writer as ‘swine,’ and by another as ‘—— swindlers,’ a third capping these two classifications by designating them ‘ignorant blackguards,’ which phrases, when indiscriminately applied, are certainly not deserved. Many of the bookmakers doing business on our race-courses are doubtless ignorant of matters not connected with their own pursuit, and probably they never interfere with the affairs of other people; but as a rule the leading men of ‘the profession’ are civil enough, and eager to trade, not a few of them being persons of gentlemanly deportment and good manners; some are even educated men. Judging from what one sees at the various meetings,

there must be a vast number of bookmakers at work. At Epsom Summer Meeting, at Royal Ascot, and at Goodwood, the paddocks seem as crowded with these busybodies as with the public. At Doncaster during a meeting a curious inquirer was able to count over seven hundred industrious pencillers inside and outside the various rings, a considerable number of whom were no doubt 'welshers' or thieves. As a rule, the professional bookmaker is an industrious, hard-working person. There is now such a plethora of meetings, and so much business to be got through on each day, that it may be said without exaggeration that he has to work every day of the year. When not engaged in shouting and noting the odds on the race-course, he is either travelling to the next meeting or engaged in making up his accounts or carrying on his correspondence.

Bookmakers have favourite circuits to which they adhere; some never go north of Trent, others never venture south of that river; not a few, however, go everywhere, and are to be found in the paddock at most of the important meetings of the season, from Lincoln Spring to Manchester Autumn, and then they begin a round of steeplechasing, which carries them from the end of November to the beginning of March. Besides the men who devote themselves to the business all the year round, there are not a few who carry on book-making by fits and starts, small tradesmen and others who, combining business with pleasure, make a book at some favourite racing resort, and thus see the races for nothing, and sometimes make a little money in addition.

Many of the larger bookmakers are men who have invested their savings in a business of some kind, such as a brewery, a flour-mill, a cutlery establishment, a newspaper, a tavern, hotel, or common 'pub.' Some bookmakers work in partnership, or in syndicates, and, if they do not divide profits, they share the cost of acquiring information and other expenses. The profits of 'ready-money' bookmaking on the racecourse are undoubtedly considerable, there being no risk of bad debts. As there are from five to eight races decided every day at each meeting, it goes hard with the layer of the odds if he does not twice in a day find the favourite overthrown, and the money for which it was backed safe in his pocket; and in the event of a horse winning against which he has not laid the odds, then he in all probability reaps a handsome profit—'skins the lamb,' as the saying goes. Some bookmakers lay the horses running to any amount, say to lose £50, a £100, or even £500, according to status and means. They will more especially do so if they find that three or four horses are being backed by the public, and that there is some chance of an outsider winning. They take care to lay the smallest possible price against each horse that the public will be satisfied with. If 'backing at his own prices' be at all brisk, the bookmaker has not much to fear when his frequent chances of 'skinning the lamb' are taken into account. Seeing that there are every racing day from thirty to fifty horses running, the bookmaker has his work cut out, and must shout loudly, and by the aid of a clerk pencil actively, to get 'field money' in his book. No wonder after returning from the scene

of action that he feels tired and much inclined to eat a good dinner and go early to bed. As a rule, the best bookmakers are rather abstemious in regard to drinking, and as a class they are sober men, many of them not tasting wines or spirits for months at a stretch.

A goodly number of the present bookmakers have 'risen' from nothing, and it is to their credit that many of them are known to make a good use of their savings. Their rise to wealth in most cases has been slow but sure, and not without vicissitudes of varying fortune.

'I one day put my whole savings on a single chance,' said one of them to the writer, 'and had it not come off in my favour, I would probably have needed to go back to my old trade of costermongering, and the missus, instead of riding about in her brougham, might have been shouting "Sprats!" over Lambeth way.'

Said another bookmaker: 'I was potman in a West-End beerhouse twenty-five years ago near the Corner, and what struck me was that lots of gentlemen's coachmen were always asking me for the loan of a sovereign or a fiver to pay their bets with, giving me a small acknowledgment for the favour when they got their wages. I thought to myself, That's very odd: these men seem to be always a-dropping of their money; who can be a-lifting it? It's them bookmakers, thinks I, and that book-making is surely not a bad game if people be always a-backing of the wrong horse. So then and there I starts a little book, just for silver money, and I got on so well at the business that I gave up handling the pots, and now I go to the meetings with the best of 'em, and can lay the odds to a ten

or twenty pound note, and think nothing of it. Only fools back horses, sir; wise men turn bookmakers and lay 'em, and as I know there are a thousand fools for every wise man, so you see, sir, there's plenty of business for me and such as me.'

II.

The *rationale* of bookmaking may now be entered upon, for the benefit of those who know nothing about it. Persons unacquainted with the machinery of the turf are doubtless surprised when they learn from an occasional paragraph in their daily newspaper that 'Mr. So-and-so has won £10,000 by the success of his horse in such and such a race,' probably some handicap; and not knowing how the amount has been gathered together, they at once hold up their hands in horror at the awful sum of money which some unfortunate person must have lost. Even Canon Kingsley, of 'Westward Ho!' celebrity, was so ignorant of the mode in which the betting of the period is carried on, that he fancied and wrote as if one man betted with and lost thousands to his brother man—the Canon (intelligent as he was) being apparently ignorant of the bookmaker and his functions as the go-between, or intermediary, of the forty or fifty thousand persons who lose a sovereign each, and the half-dozen fortunate people who each gain a few hundreds, or, it may be, thousands, by backing the winner of some particular race. The mission of the bookmaker is to gather in a great sum of money in small or large sums, as the case may be, over each race that is run, and then to deal out the amount in portions to those

persons who have been so fortunate as to back the horse which wins the race.

The *modus operandi* of bookmaking and betting as it exists to-day may be explained as follows: A given handicap, or other race, being set for a particular date, the bookmaker begins business by offering to 'lay,' say, by way of illustration, 20 to 1 on the field, 'the field' meaning the whole of the horses engaged in the race. There are probably forty horses left in the race after the acceptances for the handicap have been declared, and a person may select any one of the lot he pleases, and by paying £1, or by promising to pay that sum, he will receive £20 and (if he has paid it) his own pound back, if the animal which he selects wins the race. It will be apparent that, if every one of the forty horses which have accepted for the handicap was to be backed at 20 to 1, the bookmaker would have £40 in hand with which to pay the £20 earned by the backer of the winning horse—a good enough profit, it will be thought. But the state of the odds is rarely so simple as has been indicated. The public backers, or persons who are 'in the know,' as it is called, of the form, private or public, of some particular horse, soon make it 'first favourite,' by rushing to back it at lessening prices, so that in a short time the odds against that particular animal are quoted probably at 5 to 1, instead of 20 to 1; others may be priced at 25, 33, or 40 to 1. Betting on the great handicaps of the season begins early and goes on vigorously to the day of the race. The following specification of the financial result will show the mode in which the bookmaker squares his account and realizes his profit.

Let it be supposed, for easy calculation, that the bookmaker has resolved to wager to lose £1000 against every one of the horses engaged in the race after the acceptances have been declared, and that he receives no money over the horse that wins, or, if he has been betting for ready money, that he has of course to return the stakes deposited on behalf of the winning horse. His account then may stand as follows just previous to the race :

Will win if first favourite loses (laid at an average of 5 to 1)	-	-	-	-	£200	0	0
Will win if second favourite loses (laid at an average of 7 to 1)	-	-	-	-	£130	0	0
Will win if third favourite loses (laid at an average of 8 to 1)	-	-	-	-	£120	0	0
Will win if fourth favourite loses (laid at an average of 10 to 1)	-	-	-	-	£100	0	0
Will win if fifth favourite loses (laid at an average of 10 to 1)	-	-	-	-	£100	0	0
Will win if all the others lose, including those scratched, say	-	-	-	-	£550	0	0
					<hr/>		
The total of these is					£1,200	0	0

If the bookmaker has been so fortunate as to lay the odds against all the horses in the race, according to the above figures, he has, in turf parlance, 'got round'—in other words, he has in his book, if not in his pocket, £1,200 of field money with which to pay the £1,000 he has wagered against the winning horse; but it will be seen that if the favourite wins he makes no profit, as the £200 standing against it has to be repaid if it has been received, or, if not received, it does not count. In the event of any of the other horses being first, which is not at all uncommon—as first favourites do not always win the larger handicaps—the book-

maker will have a profit of greater or lesser amount ; in other words, some of the horses may be only backed to win a few hundreds, instead of the whole thousand, while one or two may not be backed at all, in which case he 'skins the lamb.'

These figures, however, must be taken *cum grano salis* ; they are merely given by way of illustration, and nothing varies so much as the finance of a handicap. In not a few instances the bookmaker finds it difficult to make ends meet ; he is unable, that is, to bet round or lay against every horse, and there may be no scratchings to speak of. When a few of the leading horses—taking it for granted they have been well backed—are struck out of the race at an early date ('scratched'), it is just so much money found. Sometimes the public partiality for particular horses is so pronounced that they will not back more than ten or twelve out of the forty or fifty which may have accepted for the race. In such a case, if the bookmaker has the run of a good market, he tries various plans to get laid against the horses which are not generally fancied ; he will offer them in lots, or in a lump ; at all events, he will do his utmost to get money out of them. In making a book for a handicap of importance, on which betting (all in)* begins months before the day fixed for the race, such as the Lincolnshire Handicap, City and Suburban, or Cesarewitch and Cambridgeshire, bookmakers have numerous advantages. Not to speak of those horses which are never entered, or those which may not accept, they have the

* 'All in' means that the backer takes the chance of the horse being entered.

advantage of bagging all the money for those animals which, from various causes, are struck out of the race.

When 'the favourite,' or any other animal which has been prominent in the betting, is scratched, it is the best of all news to the layer of the odds, however mortifying it may be to the poor backer. A typical book on a big handicap has been given in the preceding remarks as being of the extent of £1,000, but much larger books are made; all, however, are made in much the same fashion, and for the £ s. d. of a £10,000 book the reader can multiply the figures previously given by ten. It is always difficult to obtain exact knowledge as to the manipulation of some of the large books which are nowadays opened on some of the more important races. Many of the more active of the bookmakers *back* horses as well as lay the odds against them; the fact is, the bookmakers of the period get to *know* so much that they cannot restrain themselves. One of them, for instance, will know that Sir George Blank's horse has been so highly tried for some given race that, in the opinion of his trainer, he cannot be beaten; therefore he backs that horse to win him a thousand or two, and if he values the information very highly, he 'peppers' all the others by laying more against them than he ought to do. What one bookmaker does, many others do, so that, as a matter of fact, there is no really fair and square laying of the odds to a measured sum; on the contrary, there is much gambling, and on occasions—a necessary corollary, as it may be said—a sad breakdown.

Bookmakers, as a rule, take care to be well in-

formed of what is going on on the training-grounds; they are fed with information either at their own expense or by their numerous clients. When a horse wins or loses a trial, they are pretty sure to know the fact before the general body of bettors can obtain the same information. When a commission is thrown into the market they very soon smell the fact; but they would be dunces, indeed, if the mere significance, the constant demand to back a horse, did not show them that the animal was likely to become a favourite, and in time be backed at 10 to 1 instead of 40 to 1; that being so, they act a cautious part, and perhaps *finesse* for a time, so as to be able to lay the shortest possible odds.

It is a remarkable fact of the betting-ring that tens of thousands of pounds change hands without bill or bond. 'Put me down ten monkeys, Iroquois,' says a bettor to a bookmaker with whom he bets, and the bet is at once entered in the little betting-books carried by each. That is all—nothing more simple, indeed; but on the Monday after the race the transaction will be implemented by the bookmaker if the horse wins the race it has been backed for; whilst the backer, even if he be 'broke,' will own to the liability. On the settling-day of a big race, or over the transactions of a heavy week at Goodwood or Newmarket, thousands of pounds will change hands in the most primitive way, no receipts being asked for or offered. The balance entered in the settling-book when paid is marked with a **X** to denote that it has been paid; nothing more is necessary. There are men who make it their business to settle for bettors who do not find

it convenient to attend the clubs or have not the *entrée*. On these settling-sheets will be set down a host of transactions, no evidence being required of the making of the bets; and in most cases there is scarcely an error, although, perhaps, 200 or 300 bets will have been made in a heavy week with half a dozen different bookmakers. 'Have you Mr. Blank's account?' will be asked. 'Yes, I have it,' will be the answer. 'How much do you want?' 'Three-fifty.' 'All right, there you are;' and down goes a **X** in each of the books, and the affair is done with. £350 has changed hands without any fuss or bother, and so the settlements go on year after year, no bill or bond being necessary.

III.

As a matter of course, 'there are bookmakers *and* bookmakers;' it has been wittily said that if you were to skin a few of them you would find them 'welshers.' Practices exist in betting matters that are little removed from dishonesty. An anecdote regarding the betting transactions of a nobleman was recently related that affords an illustration of doings which, to put the case mildly, are not creditable. On one occasion the noble lord, it is said, lost £100 to a certain bookmaker, but in the course of the same week won £3,000 from him. On the Monday his lordship put the £100 he had to pay in his account, but took no notice of the £3,000 which he had to receive. 'The penciller, thinking that his lordship had overlooked the transaction, and that no more would be

heard about it, purchased, it is said, a brougham and a pair of horses as a present for his wife.' A few days later, however, the bookmaker and his client happened to meet, and whilst the peer, so the story goes (it may not be true, however), genially accepted a glass of sherry, he took care to remind the man of odds of the £3,000, 'observing that he had not asked for it on the Monday, as it might have cramped his debtor in his settling.'

Readers may place what construction they please on this mode of conducting business, but it is quite certain that, if his lordship had lost his bet instead of winning it, the stake would have been carefully asked for. The bookmaker who dealt with the nobleman referred to was not, however, a bit worse than many of his brethren of the pencil. 'What do I owe you?' they ask. If you name a smaller sum than the correct amount, it is not their business to keep you right. That is their argument. Moreover, they reply, 'If we make a blunder we have just to suffer for it; no one who may be paid a tenner too much ever says a word about it.' As the bookmaker has it, it is a case of diamond cut diamond. Other sins of a still more heinous nature are not seldom laid at the door of the bookmaker.

The hero of the anecdote just referred to was on some occasions a very heavy speculator on the turf, making every now and then bets to win or lose large sums of money, wagering, for instance, £3,000 to win £5,000, or *vice versâ*, and not seldom proving victorious. The final transaction on the turf of this gentleman was risking £10,000 to win £4,000, the

instrument of this particular gamble being a celebrated race-horse of the period. His lordship on that occasion lost his money, and was not slow to assert that he had been 'done.' The occurrence was much talked about, and assertions were made (probably without much foundation in fact) that some persons were implicated in the transaction from whom better behaviour might have been expected. The hints thrown out were, generally speaking, to the effect that the race in question, if it had not been 'got up' for his lordship, ended in the horse backed by him being made what in turf parlance is called a 'safe one.' £10,000 was a nice plum to pluck, and would bear a good deal of dividing. Many such events come under the knowledge of bookmakers, and owners of horses who associate with them for 'business' purposes.

It may be taken for granted by those who have never ventured behind the scenes of turf speculation, that the bookmaker, of the two, always knows more than the backer. It must be so. The bookmaker is constantly being inspired, even by those who come to take the odds from him. When any of the big handicaps are imminent, owners come to the bookmaker to back their horses. He hears from them the strength of the trials which have taken place: Damon, a three-year-old, he learns, is better than Pythias, a four-year-old, and as Pythias lately beat Castor in an important race, he thus obtains a valuable clue to work by; no wonder he is alert in laying the odds against Castor and one or two other horses which he *knows* have no chance of winning. Then again, as often as not, he has 'dead ones' to lay against—horses that might

win the race but will not run, or if they do, will not for some reason be permitted to do their best. It is any odds, under such circumstances, against the everyday backer—he is bound to fail. He may, as the saying goes, ‘tumble’ to the situation in the end, and so save himself by finding the pea; but it is vain to fight against the bookmaker, who has many unsuspected agencies at work to supply him with information; he knows, often enough before the owner of the animal himself, when a horse has been beaten in its trial or has broken down at exercise, and is prompt on all such occasions to make quick use of his knowledge. Many a time does the poor backer crow at having, as he thinks, got good odds to his stake, but in the end the bookmaker has all the profit.

WHO SETS THE MARKET?

I.

As to the amount of betting which now takes place on the great popular race of the season, who can put it down in 'exact figures'? Certainly not the present writer. It is being said that betting on the Derby is not what it used to be, and, perhaps, in some respects it is not; but the amount of money which changes hands is certainly not less than it was forty or fifty years since. Individual bets may not be so large, but that is made up for by the multiplicity of small sums ventured on the race. Thousands of persons are betting a little in these days for the hundreds who gambled on the result of the Derby half a century ago; and for each hundred who made 'books' on the race in the year 1835, there are now, in all probability, a thousand at the same business. It would not, probably, be an exaggeration to say that for the next race four or five of the competing horses will be backed, or have been backed, to win, by their owners, their friends, and the general public, at least a quarter of a million sterling, whilst one or two animals which have been struck out—'scratched' is the phrase—and the remainder of the animals that will

run, will also have been supported to win a good round sum of money. The falling off in what may be designated 'big betting' is only what was to be expected in the face of the changed surroundings of the Derby, inasmuch as the 'form' of the horses comprising the field is so well known by means of their previous performances that, as a rule, very short odds only can be obtained from the bookmakers about animals likely to win, and even very sanguine bettors pause before taking 2 or 3 to 1, to hundreds of pounds; such odds not being tempting to men who like big prices, and who in consequence elect to bet on one or other of the big handicaps of the season at rates ranging from 100 to 8 to 100 to 2½. Many persons prefer to 'try their luck' in a 'sweepstake,' and willingly risk their sovereign in the purchase of a ticket which might result in their winning £100, should they be fortunate enough to draw the first prize, rather than back one of the favorites to win a couple of pounds. It is seldom 'dark' horses win the Derby, but there are still a few men who back outsiders: 'It feels so nice,' they say, 'to have 33 to 1 about a horse that may win.' Unfortunately for them, however, such bets seldom put money in their pockets.

In noting the prices offered against the chances of the various horses, either in the Derby or any other race, the question at once presents itself, Who fixes the 'odds,' or, in turf parlance, 'sets the market'?

In many cases the public make their own market; in others the market is set by one, or in cases by two or three, of the more long-headed bookmakers. It is

amusing at some race meetings to note what takes place in this matter of regulating the prices of different horses. It may be taken for granted, of course, that the persons most interested, namely, the bookmakers, take good care of themselves, and never by any chance make a mistake in naming prices that are too liberal. At a race meeting, the moment the numbers are exhibited for a small race, say a field of from four to seven horses, a stentorian voice may be heard to shout 'Six to four on the field!' which 'sets the market' for the race, and immediately all the leather-lunged community of layers of 'the odds' will be heard singing the same song, probably varying their offers with 'Two to one bar one,' which means that the price of the second favourite is two to one; whilst another may be at odds of four, and another at five to one. The announcement of six to four on the field, or whatever the initial price may be fixed at, is often enough purely capricious, having no relation whatever to the merits or chance of the horse in the race about to be decided; it is a custom of the business to offer such odds—use and wont, in fact—and all follow the first shout.

These or similar odds are proclaimed over and over again, day by day, as racing progresses, no matter whether they prove true or false. That such is the case the following anecdote will prove:

A friend of the writer's having been often struck with the stereotyped and parsimonious character of the prices offered at one or two of the great race meetings, and not being able to ascertain from any one present the reasons which governed the offers,

resolved on a particular occasion to try a practical joke on the assembled bookmakers. He arranged on two different days that a 'pal' of his should try to 'set the market,' and he succeeded in doing so. In one of the races agreed upon, four horses were ultimately numbered on the board; and as soon as the third one was placed, the person in question shouted in the usual stentorian fashion, 'Five to two on the field!' 'Yes,' replied a group of bookmakers near him, 'five to two on the field;' and, extraordinary as it may seem, the large flock of professional men who were present went on with their business on the foundation thus given, whilst it was really a case of 'even money' being the proper price as regards one of the horses competing in the race, the one which, in this event, actually won the race, and the owner of which was so surprised at the liberal nature of the odds offered, that he at length became chary of accepting the price, thinking the bookmakers knew 'something' against the horse that he was unacquainted with.

The other was a very marked case, and showed conclusively that the rank and file of bookmakers bet by practice, and disregard principle. The same tactics were adopted: a field of seven horses was displayed on the board; and just before it was hoisted into its position, the sham bookmaker, pencil in hand, bawled out, 'I'll take odds!' which meant that the backers of the horse which was thus made favourite would have to risk £6 to win £4—'I'll take six to four' being shouted all over the paddock; and there were plenty of inconsiderate fools who backed the favourite at the rate of odds mentioned, while in reality the figure should

have probably been 2 to 1, or even more, against its chance, as the horse never showed prominently in the race, which was won by an animal so little fancied by backers that 16 to 1 was actually laid against its chance.

When there is sufficient time, even in the space of three or four minutes sometimes, 'the market,' as the saying goes, 'will revolutionize itself,' and the horse which was made favourite be relegated to a long price, some other animal being promoted to the post of honour. It is difficult to give a reason for this, other than one given to the writer by a hanger-on at race-meetings, who has acquired considerable knowledge of such matters.

'You see, sir,' he said, 'it's the money as does it all. It's fine business, it is, when a man has laid forty to sixty agin a horse as goes back to five to one, and is then able to lay fifty to forty, or mayhap even money, agin another as comes with a rush acause of its being heavily backed by its owner. In that case, you see, sir, he has a century any way in his book, if neither o' the two win, and has other four all a running for him at some sort o' odds; and if he has booked a matter o' sixty quid (pounds) for them, he is sure to get round with a big profit. Only one horse can come in first, you know, sir, and that is the one he's got to pay over; and, of course, if he's a-doin' for "the ready," he has to give back the stake. The reason as how horses come and go is that a cute owner, thinking the horse he has entered in the race can beat all the others, waits till he sees a good favourite made before he backs his own horse, and then he goes and puts on a couple of monkeys (£1,000) with one of the big pen-

cillers, such as Fry or Peech; and then them cute ones send their agents round the ring, and get their money back by backing the horse with the little men, taking a bit for themselves if they think the horse a likely one to win. If three or four owners each back their "gee-gee" to win "the odds," to a monkey or two, the price is sure to come to a short figure; and that's how it all comes about.'

An old-fashioned bookmaker gave the following explanation of how the prices are fixed: 'No layer of the odds needs to trouble himself about the matter, for the best of all reasons—namely, that the public make their own prices. I shout, "The field a pony"; and when a backer comes up, I say, "Even money," against his choice, no matter what horse he names. Should he take the price, then I think he knows something, and in less than a minute there will be a favourite made. After that the rest is easy enough: I just try to bet round, so as to be safe; and occasionally, as you know, one that has not been backed for a penny romps home to the winning-post, and the race is over.'

So far as they go, the foregoing remarks give a pretty fair explanation of how the odds are fixed; but what has to be made still plainer is the great fact that 'the market,' in the majority of instances, does not represent with any degree of faithfulness the quality of a horse, or its ability to win a given race.

The odds offered on the race-course have often about as much relation to the chances of the animal as the price of railway stock has to the financial condition of a railway, and its ability to declare a certain

dividend. As a rule, which, however, like other rules, is not without its exceptions, the 'form,' or winning ability, of all horses which have run in races is known, so that their chances of winning can be pretty well estimated. When, therefore, seven horses are brought together to compete in one or other of the commoner or smaller handicaps of the time, bettors make it their business to 'weigh up' the merits, or demerits, as the case may be, of each of the competitors, the performances of the different horses being before them in the printed guides to the turf, with the view of backing whichever horse has, in their opinion, the best chance of winning the race. Well, what ought the odds to be against any given horse, and how should the odds be determined?

It used to be said of a certain bookmaker, clever at figures and quick at setting the market, that he employed a Cambridge man to fix the prices for him, and that it was done according to the doctrine of probabilities. That, of course, was somewhat of a joke; but one would almost think, so quickly are prices fixed and so glibly run off the tongue, that the merits of each horse, or rather its chance of winning a given race, had been appraised on mathematical principles. No such thing in reality happens, and the prices quoted, it may be safely asserted, are in every sense 'fancy prices' offered on the spur of the moment. In a race for which seven or eight horses are brought to the post, prices may range from perhaps 7 to 4 to 20 to 1. If the race is a handicap, the weights apportioned to the different competitors are supposed, in theory, at least, to render the chance of every animal

in the race equal: one horse may be apportioned a weight of 8 st. 12 lb., whilst another may have only 7 st. 4 lb. to carry; another may have 6 st. 10 lb., whilst the lowest weight borne in the race may be 5 st. 7 lb. Although the handicapper does his very best to adjust the weights so as, in his opinion, to equalize the chances of all, it is exceedingly difficult for him to succeed in doing so, for even in the smallest races horses have been known to have a weight apportioned to them not in accordance with their merit, and in consequence backers who attend daily meetings have frequently to speculate in the dark, having to contend against unknown factors brought into the account without their knowledge.

Some bookmakers simply 'gamble' on the smaller daily races. 'Others may bet to figures,' said one of these gentlemen recently on being interviewed. 'I don't. I know very well the favourite is as often beaten as not, therefore I lay against the favourite with all my might, and against every other horse as well; but I do like to lay the favourite when it is at a short price. When it is five to four or even money against a horse, if the betting is at all brisk, and there be half a dozen or eight running, you can get a power of money into your book if you are not afraid. The great fact to bear in mind in betting is that there is often a 'dark' horse that may win. You may be "had," of course, over the 'dark' one; but then you have all the money received for the favourite and the others with which to pay. Favourites, I have calculated, do not win oftener than twice in five times—in fact, not quite so often by a fraction. Acting on that theory, I simply

gamble day by day, and it pays me to do so. The small prices which we lay, you see, are greatly in our favour. I sometimes gamble as well on the larger handicaps, at the post especially, when they back six or seven at pretty fair prices. I won some money by laying against Todhunter at Liverpool. The price of that animal was seven to two; it had become first favourite, and was most extensively backed, but made no show in the race. As the reporters said, it never looked dangerous, and was well beaten throughout. I considered that another horse, with Archer on its back, had the best claim to support. From its previous performance it was second favourite, and I also laid as much as I could against it; but the people seemed crazed about Todhunter. We were near "skinning the lamb," as the race was won by a short head only, the odds against the second horse being 20 to 1; the horse which was placed third started at 16 to 1. Races often result in that way, so that one cannot help gambling a little on such occasions. Then, you know, I sometimes get into a good thing when there is a "plant" on in which any of my training friends are interested.'

II.

Some of the bigger frauds and chicaneries of the turf would require to be discussed at length; but the every-day frauds, which in one way or other affect the state of the odds, may be alluded to in passing.

Frequently a 'plant' is arranged to come off in connection with some of the little handicaps, or, to put the case in plain English, when it is found that a horse

quietly *reserved* for a particular event has been awarded a weight that will make its victory as nearly as may be a foregone conclusion, a *coup* will be planned. In a case of this kind, the better to improve the occasion, two or three of the leading bookmakers are often taken into the confidence of owner and trainer. The market, if possible, will be set in such fashion as to make a particular horse favourite in order that a good price may the more readily be obtained against the 'planted' animal. Those not in 'the know' become the sufferers, and wonder how it occurs that the nag, about which they hastened to take 5 to 4, could possibly be beaten by a horse that started at 8 to 1, and, to all appearance, had not been backed by anybody. The bookmakers in the secret would, as the saying goes, field heavily against the other horses in the race, and so be able to accommodate the owner of the winner with a good big sum at a fair price. Such is one way of 'sophisticating the odds,' and fleecing the outside racing public. No backer of horses, however astute or experienced he may be, can contend against such practices—practices which are reputed to be of frequent occurrence.

So far, the rate of odds incidental to every-day races have only been treated of. As regards the two greatest handicaps of the season, and other important events of the same kind, the odds offered for the acceptance of backers are still more fanciful and unjust than in the case of the smaller races. Long before the 'entries' are due for the Cesarewitch and Cambridgeshire, and therefore long before it can be

known, except to persons more immediately concerned, whether or not a particular horse will be entered, 50 to 1 may be had against any animal for the long race (the Cesarewitch), and 66 to 1 against any one animal for the Cambridgeshire, which means in plain language that the bookmaker will give £66 to the person who can name the winning horse—£1 being the forfeit of non-success.

These figures may seem to denote a liberal price, but in reality do not, for if even 200 to 1 were offered, it would not in all probability cover the chance of the animal selected. In the first place, the horse chosen may not be entered for the race; in the second place, if entered, the owner may be dissatisfied with the weight assigned to it, and in consequence not accept; in the third place, if acceptance should be declared, the horse may not be started in the race; and in the fourth place, should it actually take part in the struggle, it may not prove the winner. Of these two races, after the handicap is published (that is, when the weight to be carried by each horse has been signified) the public bettors may be said themselves to 'make' the prices; indeed, long before the weights have been fixed a favourite has frequently been well established. The bookmaker very soon finds out for which horse backers evince a preference, and as it continues to be backed he gradually reduces the odds. In the slang of the turf it has been called a 'mug's game' to back horses for any race previous to the acceptances being declared, but it is a game from which the votaries of the turf cannot be weaned. They come to 'the scratch' year after year to obtain the so-called 'long prices,' and season

after season in time to come they will doubtless return to their vomit.

The Cesarewitch, as has been indicated, is a long-distance race, the course over which it is run being two miles and a quarter in length, and the reason given by the bookmakers for fixing the initial rate of odds against the field at 50 to 1 only is that so very few horses can successfully travel the distance, that those which can do so are sure to be 'spotted' by the backers, and be heavily invested upon. It is not odds of 10 to 1, they say, against certain of the horses if they should be entered and not be overweighted. There is a grain of truth in the protest, but a grain only, for the race has been oftener than once secured by a horse carrying a weight which it was thought would prevent its gaining a victory. It has likewise been won by horses never thought of before the entries, as Primrose Day, and the merits of which were perhaps only discovered ten days before the race, so that on the whole the bettors who take the odds have usually the worst, and the bookmakers who lay the odds the best of the bargain, no matter how liberal the price may be that is offered. It has to be taken into account also that the race is often enough won by a horse which has been kept and 'worked' for the race—a horse that only the trainer and owner will know the merits of, the public, when possible, being kept in the dark, so that those immediately connected with the stable may obtain an enhanced price. This is a phase of turf chicanery often practised.

As a rule, the layer of the odds against the chances of individual horses has a long way the best of the

bargain. He is pretty sure (it is his business) to *know* more than the backers; he may, for instance, know that the horse backed is not ultimately intended to run in that particular race. The bookmaker, it may be affirmed, plays the game with loaded dice. 'I had one year,' said a bookmaker to a friend, 'nine horses to *lay against* for the Cambridgeshire after the acceptances were declared, and as two of these became pretty hot favourites, I made a good bit of money out of them.' Sixty-six to one is a niggardly price to lay when all the contingencies that may prevent a horse winning are taken into account. The fortunate persons who by a stroke of good luck find, after the race has been decided, that they have selected the winning horse at the long odds may rest assured they have not received value for their money, gratifying for the time as may be the result. Of the 120 horses entered for the race, only seventy may have accepted, and out of the fifty non-acceptors probably fifteen will have been pretty well backed, in addition to which several horses will have been pretty heavily supported that did not enter. Then, again, before the day of the race half a dozen of the horses after becoming pretty good favourites will be 'scratched'; that is, struck out of the contest, all of which occurrences, while they favour the bookmaker, are the reverse of favourable to the backers, but are important factors in regulating the state of the odds.

The Cambridgeshire is a much more important race than the Cesarewitch, as far as betting is concerned, and, as has been stated, the initial odds against naming the winner are usually fixed at 66 to 1, and well may

they be so, seeing that over 160 horses may be entered for competition, whilst a dozen of horses perhaps will be supported to win considerable sums that may not be entered. As illustrating what the odds ought to be, the case may be stated as follows: Horses entered, 160; of which pretty heavily backed, 40; more or less heavily backed, but not entered, say 15; accepted, 90; proportion of those heavily backed which accepted, 15.

The bookmakers, therefore, so far as the Cambridgeshire is concerned, have had 175 horses to work with, forty of which (including the fifteen never entered) must have laid a capital foundation for a profitable book on the termination of the race. Well, then, under such circumstances, and in view of the above figures, what ought to be the initial odds? in plain language, how should the market be set to give intending bettors fair play? It looks on the face of the case that even 100 to 1 would be nothing like a fair offer, considering that the horse which wins the race has frequently started at long odds. If bettors were less foolish, if they had more brains than money, they would refuse even 100 to 1 as the initial odds for such a race as the Cambridgeshire. According to a rough-and-ready estimate of the real odds, if there can be such a thing as *real odds* in the case, the initial price against each horse, if not fixed at 200 to 1, should at the least be fixed at the number of entries, taking for guidance, say, the average number entered in the five preceding years; say, by way of example, 160 to 1, a rate of (initial) odds that would certainly not be excessive.

In the matter of setting the market on big races,

backers have themselves to blame for the poverty-stricken prices which they obtain. It has been argued, in considering the prices offered against horses running in small handicaps, that the price ought to be governed on the principle of placing the balls used in pool (billiards) in a wicker bottle, and then betting as to which colour will come out first ; but there is a striking difference to be considered : billiard-balls are dead and inert ; horses, on the contrary, are alive and active, so are their jockeys, whilst their owners and trainers have always a potent voice as to what the conduct of their horse in the race shall be. Billiard-balls, it may be taken for granted, are always in the same condition ; horses are not, neither are their owners and trainers always in a winning mood. It can never, therefore, be a case of similar odds to the appearance of a particular billiard-ball, whilst the influence of the betting public must, as a matter of course, affect the prices offered ; but the bookmakers have always this advantage, that while one, or even two, out of seven horses may be heavily backed for a handicap or other race, only one can win ; if the favourite starts at even money, the bookmaker has the chance of one of the other six winning the race. Moreover, the horse which has been backed to win the least amount of money may prove the victor, or the winner's name may not have been mentioned in the betting, in which case the bookmaker will 'skin the lamb.' In setting the market, the form displayed by a horse is said to be carefully taken into account ; but curiously enough, in races in which it is the rule for all horses to carry an equal weight, better prices are sometimes obtained by

the backer than in the case of handicaps in which every horse has, as the case may be put, a different impost on its back, and in which the correct form of nearly every horse likely to compete is known, or through collateral running may be estimated.

III.

Many persons who take for granted things that do *not* occur, and who believe in that kind of racing superstition which would always give the victory to the favourite, and who never think of inquiring minutely for themselves, will be a little surprised to learn that even in the classic races, where, as has been hinted, the form of all the runners can be perfectly well ascertained, the odds at the start, over a series of years, average a rather high figure for the winner. Horses starting at comparatively long prices have frequently won the Derby, Oaks, and St. Leger—the favourite sometimes being, as they say in racing circles, ‘nowhere,’ or, to put the case gently, beaten. In big handicaps the same fate often enough befalls horses which start as ‘hot ones.’ Without troubling the reader with a phalanx of figures on the subject, it may be mentioned, with respect to the Cesarewitch, that the price of the winner at the start for the race in 1869-70 was 20 to 1; in 1873, 22 to 1; in 1874, 25 to 1; in 1878, 20 to 1; in 1879, 22 to 1; in some previous years even longer odds than these are recorded. Of the Cambridgeshire horses, it falls to be related that, on occasion, very long odds have been obtained just before the race was decided; examples may be

quoted : Montargis in 1873, started at 50 to 1, and of Isonomy, in 1878, the price at the start was 40 to 1. More recently Bendigo and Gloriation started at 50 and 40 to 1 respectively. The starting prices of the Derby and Oaks winners are given elsewhere.

One phase of Derby betting which prevailed at one time has been greatly fallen from, namely, the making of books on the yearlings entered for the race. Some thirty or forty years since there were men who would lay to lose £10,000 against any animal entered for the Derby, and even now it is said one or two amateur bookmakers are trying their hand at a yearling Derby book. These speculations never paid, some one or other of the backers being so fortunate as to back the yearling to which victory ultimately fell. As regards the general run of betting on the Derby, there are men who never touch that race as a medium for speculation. 'It is not worth my while to back horses for the Derby,' said recently a well-to-do backer to the writer; 'I prefer to risk my fivers on some of the other events—the Derby betting is too stereotyped for my taste.' On the other side of the question there are many shrewd backers who bet on the Derby, and put money in their purses by so doing.

The odds now betted against horses for places, especially in what are called the 'classic events,' are more fanciful than they used to be. For the benefit of the uninitiated in racing economy, it has to be explained that three horses in each race are 'placed' by the judge, viz., the winner, as also the second and third horse—a fourth animal being sometimes placed. In all the large races, in consequence of that arrange-

ment, there has been 'place betting.' At one time in the history of the turf, there was a good deal of betting 'one, two'—that is, that a given horse would either be first or second in the race. For that contingency half the odds were betted 'one, two,' that were offered for a win—if the price against a horse winning was 20 to 1, then 10 to 1 would be offered against a horse being first or second. If it be these odds against a horse being first or second, why should only 'a fourth' of the odds to win be offered against the chance of a horse to be first, second, or third? And why, in the case of the Derby, and one or two other races, should, as has been the case in some years, only about a seventh of the odds be offered against that contingency? In place of being so 'nippit,' the odds against a horse obtaining a place ought really to be liberal, seeing that, in general, only two or three of the horses running in a race try for places, especially in the early part of the season. A jockey generally gets orders not to 'bustle the horse,' if it becomes obvious during the race that he has no chance of winning. Under all the circumstances, the odds for a place ought to be one-third of the odds offered for a win, seeing that the backer has so small a chance on his side of gaining his money; as to the place prices now offered on the Derby, none but very foolish people accept them.

A few necessary remarks on a favourite mode of betting in which the backer has usually the worst of the bargain may now be offered. The prices of double and triple event bets are effected by the multiplication of the current odds offered against each horse. For instance, it may be that the quotation against Sin for

the Lincoln Handicap is 20 to 1, whilst the price of Misery for the City and Suburban is 40 to 1, which gives 800 to 1 as the value of the double event. A triple event is arranged in a similar fashion, as thus : Gastronomer at 16 to 1 for the Lincoln race, Pleasure 20 to 1 for City and Suburban, Dyspepsia 25 to 1 for the Derby, or 8000 to 1 as the value of the triple event! But no such price as that can be obtained. Bookmakers who do business in these fancy bets restrict the amount of the odds they offer on doubles to £2,000, and on triples to £3,000 respectively—a capital win in either case when it can be effected ; but it is not often that such sums as even these restricted amounts are realized. Nothing is more difficult in betting than to select two horses which will win a double event—to name a series of three winners is still more difficult—racing is such a lottery, especially to those who are not very much behind the scenes. The bet when taken may look thoroughly practical ; all the horses may be in good fettle, and be meant to contend in the various races in the most honourable manner ; the first event of either series may indeed be realized ; but some fine morning the remaining horse, or one of them if it be a triple event, may be found to be lame—and, lo ! the chance of an easily-made fortune flees at once away. Each horse must gain the race it is named for, or the bet becomes null and void.

The philosophy of a well-planned double event, and triple event also, is, stated briefly, that it should be so arranged that the winning of the horse in the first event should have a favourable effect on the animal selected for the second thus the success of Sin, by

previous 'form,' should bring Misery 'to the front,' or so improve its position in the betting that it will afford good hedging—it has become a proverb of the turf that 'no bet is good till it is well hedged.' If, for instance, Sin wins the Lincoln Handicap, then the bettor stands to win £800 by the success of Misery in the City and Suburban; and as Misery has twice before beaten Sin, Misery, in consequence of the success of Sin, comes to be quoted in the betting at 100 to 6, so that the bet can be hedged at about that price to any extent under £800. The holder of the bet, to use the phraseology of the turf, can in such case 'stand on velvet,' and win either way. He can lay, if he pleases, £400 to £20, and so win £19 if the horse loses, or £400 if it wins. If the horse loses the race, that is, he has £20 to receive of hedging-money and his stake of £1 to pay; if the horse wins he receives £800, out of which he has to pay the £400 he laid. It may be said that it would be better to back the horses singly, because the stake won over the first horse could then either be reinvested or saved. There are, however, two sides to that way of putting the case. One side is that odds of £800 to £1 are obtained against the double event being realized. Just so; but if Sin had been backed singly at 20 to 1, Misery, when the first event came off, as has been explained, may have risen in the price current to 16 to 1, so that if both winnings and stake of £1 were to be reinvested, all that could be realized in the event of the second win coming off would be a sum of £336. On the other hand, the second horse may have gone back in the betting to 50 to 1 against its chance; and in that case, if the

bettor was still inclined to go on, his £21 would produce the sum of £1,050.

A bookmaker who in one year laid as many as seven hundred double-event bets on the Lincolnshire Handicap and Liverpool Grand National Steeplechase, found, after the first race had been decided, that only nineteen of his clients had succeeded in naming the winner of the first event; moreover, the said nineteen selected seven different horses for the steeplechase; and the bookmaker, having in his possession all the money invested on losers, was able himself to back the seven different horses in the steeplechase for all the money he had engaged for, and have a handsome profit left over. The prices of the seven horses which he required to make safe when the first event had been determined were respectively 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14 and 20 to 1, and as it happened that he only stood to lose £200 on the horse which was at 5 to 1, he covered that particular risk for £40; his heaviest risk was on the horse at 14 to 1, which, when most of the doubles were taken, was twice that rate of odds: he took 100 to 7 ten times in the market, that is, at his club, so that for a sum of £70 he was able to cover what he stood to lose in the event of that particular horse winning. In the end, only one of the seven horses proved successful, but the prudent bookmaker could not foresee which of them it would be, and therefore he very properly took care to make himself safe; but, as the sequel showed, the sum of £40 would have been ample to secure himself against any loss that might have occurred to him from double events.

Many similar experiences might be related. It has

been told of one bookmaker that he laid a sum of £10,000 to one person against a triple event. Two of the events came off in favour of the backer, and that bookmaker found himself in the position of having to pay £10,000 if the third horse should win; however, after the first part of the bet had been determined, the bookmaker had taken a double event to cover his risk. Ultimately, before the Derby (which was the third race), he bought up the claim for a handsome sum, and the Derby of that year was won by a horse (Blue Gown) in the same stable as the horse which was included in the triple event.

A Scottish gentleman one season invested a few pounds to win him a triple event of the value of £4,000, but it did not come off. The horses selected were: Footstep, for the Lincolnshire Handicap, which won; Austerlitz, which won the Grand National Steeplechase at Liverpool; the third horse of the series was St. Leger, for the City and Suburban Handicap, run at Epsom, which, however, failed to win that event. The speculative Scotchman might have had fine hedging over the third horse, which at one time was quoted at 12 to 1: the twelves in four thousand, therefore, at one time represented the value of the bet. Double and triple events for places can also be negotiated. The writer, by way of experiment, took 100 to 1 King Lud, 1, 2, 3, Cesarewitch; and Sterling, 1, 2, 3, Cambridgeshire, and won his money; he also upon one occasion speculated in a triple-place event which proved successful, namely, Reveller for Goodwood Stakes; Cipolata for the St. Leger; and Fernandez for the Cambridgeshire.

IV.

A way of betting at the present time much favoured by persons who do not find it convenient to attend race meetings is known as 'starting price.' The person speculating in that way of doing business instructs a bookmaker to put £1 on Busybee, on his behalf, for the Honeywood Handicap at 'starting price,' which, it need scarcely be explained, is the price at which the horse starts for the race; it may be 2 to 1 or 10 to 1, the backer being paid accordingly. A vast amount of money is day by day staked in this fashion, both in clubs and with outside bookmakers who affect this mode of doing business. A limit is fixed, beyond which payments will not be made; it is usually fixed at 8 or 10 to 1 on the smaller races, and ranges from 16 to 33 to 1 on the larger handicaps. Thousands of persons may daily be seen backing horses at 'starting price'; that they do not make much money at the game can be seen by looking at them. No wonder, seeing the small rate of odds at which the horses they usually back start at, and seeing that when the odds are large backers do not get the full tale of their investments because of the limitation referred to. As a rule, the horses invested on start (as has been shown) at exceedingly short prices; often enough it is a case of *odds on* them; at other times even money or 6 to 4 against the horse backed. When, therefore, a starting-price backer, as is often the case, backs six or more horses in a day, and when, as frequently happens, he backs two animals running in the same race, he is certain in the course of time, if not at once, to lose

his money. Starting-price backers, as a rule, blindly follow a tout or tipster, either sending to them direct by letter or telegram, or 'tipping' through the columns of a newspaper, and in this way they are called upon to back every day a matter of seven or eight horses. In the course of the day they will be much gratified at hearing the good news that three of the animals selected have each won the race for which it had been backed; but their joy is damped when they learn that one horse has started at odds of 2 to 1 on it, and another at even money, whilst the price of the third was 9 to 4.

The following is the result of an illustrative experiment recently made by the author of these pages: A sum of £7 was expended on seven horses, three of which only won their respective races, so that £4 was lost over the non-winners, one of which ran a dead-heat with odds laid on it; and the stakes being divided, a loss of three shillings was incurred on that winner, 2 to 1 was earned on another of the horses, and even money was earned on the third: the sum gained was, therefore, £2 17s., to pay a loss of £4. On some occasions backers are much more fortunate, and realize chances of 4 or 5, and sometimes 7 or 8 to 1; and to last for any time at such a business they would require frequently to obtain such chances. Non-betting readers may feel surprised at the possibility of a loss on a horse that has in effect won the race, but in the case of a dead-heat, which is not 'run off,' the backer's stake and the money laid against it are put together and divided; and in the case of odds being laid *on* a horse, say that

£1 is risked to win 15s., the backer at £1 would only be entitled to receive 17s. 6d., thus losing 2s. 6d. by the transaction! This has occurred often, and to what is called 'big money.'

Much controversy has at various times taken place as to what is starting price, and how it is to be made known. It is on the one hand contended that at all race meetings the price at which the various horses start for any given race is different at different places, *i.e.*, in the various rings—one man may be laying 2 to 1, while another may be shouting 9 to 4, or even 5 to 2, about the same horse. It is obvious, therefore, that for behoof of starting-price backers an average must be struck: and in that case arises the question, Who is the man to strike it? Practically, every starting-price bookmaker informs his customers that he settles by the prices quoted in a given newspaper. All the sporting papers have representatives in the ring, whose duty it is to gather the prices and quote the odds. At the end of each race described, the betting is duly set forth—and, speaking roundly, there is usually very little difference to be found in the quotations given by the different papers—and the prices collected find their way into all the daily and other prints which devote a portion of their space to racing intelligence, so that bookmakers obtain a large choice of references to select from. Doubts are often expressed that the real odds are not given, and cases have been cited in favour of those holding such opinions. There are two cases in point which may be mentioned. The odds laid against the winning horse in each case were quoted by most of the papers as

being 10 to 1, but the newspaper which was at the time of the race the accredited authority on starting prices published 8 to 1 as the figure. There arose in consequence a great cry against the journal in question, which was stigmatized as the 'bookmakers' organ,' and loudly denounced as having given an untruthful return; but the editor of the paper stuck to his text, and asserted that he had given the fair figures. It is not necessary to give here a précis of the controversy, or to recall what was said on either side; but in time that particular paper was dethroned, and another daily sporting print was elected as the arbiter of starting prices. By-and-by the new authority fell into as great disgrace as its predecessor, in giving 8 to 1 as the starting price of an animal which it was maintained started at two points longer odds. There was another 'row' over this matter, and probably there are many more quarrels and disputes in store for starting-price speculators.

To non-sporting readers, all that has been said on this topic may appear very much of the storm-in-a-teapot order; but a deduction of £2 in a case where thousands of bets may have been made is a serious business to the bettors, as it represents a total sum of large amount; a difference even of 5s. or 10s. in the price makes a hole in a settling. There are persons who say that, taken all over, the paper odds are really more liberal than the prices which can be obtained by individual bettors attending the various meetings. Another factor in the matter of starting price is the general belief held by thousands of those persons who back horses—that the persons whose duty it is to

collect and quote the prices can be got at and be 'squared.' There are many people who assert that every man on the turf has his price, and that by giving a reporter ten pounds, the quoted odds can be shown on paper to be less than they were in the paddock. Even if the Jockey Club were to appoint an official reporter, he, too, according to the opinion of those knowing most about such affairs, might be tampered with.

Why should there be any 'limit' in the matter of starting price? Bettors in the ring obtain the real price, whether it may be 2 to 1 or 20 to 1; why, then, should those who bet in towns not obtain their proper winnings? Were backers of horses not the fools they so often show themselves to be, they would cease to do business on any other terms. The real starting price is little enough for the risk run by persons betting in the dark, but when the odds of 20 to 1 are cut down to 8 or 10, it is really scandalous.

Before concluding this part, it may be well to take a glance at the starting-price bookmaker at home. His home for the day may be at his club, where he has a table at which to do business, or he may be the proprietor of a billiard-room, or the tenant of a good-going pub, or little shop for the sale of cigars or newspapers; no matter what his mode of blinding the authorities may be, his real work is that of book-making, doing business chiefly on the daily races, and with the majority of his customers for ready money, from, perhaps, 1s., up to £5, or even £10. There are various ways of carrying on such a busi-

ness ; the proprietor may gamble throughout, or he may bet to figures. Take an average day, and we shall find six races set for decision, in which from thirty to forty horses may actually compete, starting at such prices as have been recorded in a previous page. From an early hour the bookmaker's friends and clients begin to pop in, some to invest at once, others to gossip over the chances of the day. Opinions are exchanged. 'I know one good thing for to-day,' observes Bill Thomson. 'Well?' says Jack Johnson. 'Trapbois should win that 'ere welter easy, seeing as how he ran The Nigger to a nose two weeks since. I'll have my thick 'un (sovereign) on that 'oss.' And so the day proceeds ; men who receive telegrams from the course plank down their dollars and half-sovereigns, till a considerable sum has been received ; and the bookmaker, finding that he has taken rather much for some of the likely winners, sends out his scouts to place some of the money he has drawn with other layers of the odds. As the forenoon advances, timid-looking men slink in, and whisper their desires, evidently fearful of being noticed ; others, with less reticence, make their investments boldly, not caring who knows what they are doing. Racing begins at 1.30 ; and in a few minutes after that time a man rushes in to say that The Plover has won, Bantam second, Partridge third. All present are affected by the news : 'Just my luck ; second again!' says one. 'I'm not in it,' says another ; 'I backed The Peacock ;' and so the wail goes round ; and on the fact being found out that no one has backed The Plover, the bookmaker is chaffed into standing drinks. Better

luck awaits speculators over the second race of the day—Clarion first; all have backed it; but the price, when made known by the tape, staggers the clique—‘Even money be blowed, and seven runners!’ Seeing that all the horses in the daily races are backed to win by some person or other, it is not a little remarkable that so many of the starting-price bookmakers win money; but in the endeavour to do so they are aided by the occasionally very short odds at which many of the horses are backed. When a man takes £20 for a high-mettled steed, which starts at even money, he has only £20 to pay and the stakes to give back; and if three or four horses have been backed for the same race, he has in all probability plenty to pay with, and something over as well. If there have been as many as seven competitors, the bookmaker may have taken as much as £100, spread over the lot, or, if his business is a large one, twice that sum.

Starting price is a favourite mode of backing a horse with some owners. A ‘plant’ is laid somewhat in the following fashion: Messrs. Brown, Jones and Robinson, who each have a horse or two in a small stable, find out that one of their nags is rather smart at a mile, and so, with the aid of their trainer, they have him placed along with a stable companion in a well-selected race. The pair are taken to the scene of action and made ready for the start. The owner of one of the horses makes a show of backing it with two or three bookmakers who are in the plot, and the herd of bettors on the spot follow suit, so that the horse comes to a short price. To the surprise of all present, the other horse of the stable wins the race, without, to

all appearance, having been backed for a shilling. But in reality it has been backed to win £2,000 or £3,000; nearly every provincial bookmaker in the three kingdoms, through the medium of commissioners and agents, having laid against it, and the price is the maximum in consequence of the tactics adopted. Such details as the foregoing may appear somewhat long-winded to those who are familiar with all the outs and ins of the modern turf; this book has not, however, been written for the behoof of such persons, but to afford information to those ignorant of the machinery of racing.

In concluding this disquisition on the rate of the odds, it must be admitted that the setting of the market is not a matter for dogmatic deliverance, but for inquiry and elucidation. A bookmaker's argument is that it is the bettors themselves, and not the bookmakers, who are responsible for the prices laid. 'We cannot,' such is their argument, 'go on laying the same horse at the same price all through the piece; that would never do, for the more a horse is backed the shorter must the price against its chance become.' That is so, doubtless, in many cases, because the bookmaker is bound to get as much money into his book as he can, and when there are only a few animals entered in a race, the persistent support of one of them must naturally affect its price; but bookmakers should bear in mind that the more prices contract against the six or seven leading favourites in an important handicap, all the more should become the odds against the 'rank outsiders.'

DERBYANA.

It would be a work of considerable difficulty to bring into focus much matter about the Derby that has not already done duty in print either in the 'memoirs' of the period, or in the columns of the sporting newspapers, of which there are now so many. For those who make racing matters a study it is almost hopeless to suppose that anything can be given that will be fresh or novel; happily, however, there is a larger public—a public to whom some of the 'ana' belonging to the great race will probably prove acceptable reading, and it is in that hope these scraps are offered as a portion of this volume.

Subscription pools, 'Derby sweeps' they are called, have existed in connection with the race for a very long period; the writer has not been able to find out when they were instituted, or who first began them; but he was himself a subscriber to one of them (a half-crown sweep) so far back as the year in which Phosphorus won. During the last forty or fifty years there is scarcely a town in the United Kingdom in which a Derby sweepstake has not been organized. In some of the larger towns

there will be from forty to two hundred or more drawn every year of greater or lesser amount, the subscriptions ranging from as little as sixpence to as much as a couple of sovereigns; the principal prize being fixed accordingly, in some instances as low as £1, in other cases ranging from £50 to £500. It is said that in the year in which one of Mr. Merry's horses proved successful, twenty-five gentlemen of the West of Scotland put each down £100, £1,500 of which was allotted to the man who drew the winning horse, £700 to the ticket for the second, and £300 to the third horse: the winner of the first prize engaging to invite the other subscribers to a champagne dinner. Many Derby sweeps are drawn every year in Glasgow, the drawing of the 'Exchange Sweep,' in particular, exciting a great deal of attention—it is promoted by the gentlemen who are subscribers to the Royal Exchange Reading-room. In most of the clubs in Scotland Derby sweeps are drawn, some of them being of considerable amount, the first prize being seldom less than £60, but £100 is no uncommon sum to be paid to the holder of the ticket containing the name of the winner, whilst a similar amount will very likely fall to be distributed among the placed and running horses.

In the course of proceedings instituted against a licensed victualler, an inspector of police stated to
 London Derby one of the magistrates that it was within
 Sweeps. his knowledge that more than 1,000 Derby
 sweeps were every year got up in the great Metropolis, many of them representing large total amounts—the

winning ticket in some of the larger organizations taking as much as £200. It is no exaggeration to say that the number of sweeps got up in London far exceeds the figure given by the inspector of police; one sporting publican, well versed in such matters, thought there would be no fewer than 10,000, big and little, ranging from the palatial clubs of Pall Mall and Piccadilly to the 'free and easies' of the working-men in the various suburban localities of the great Metropolis; while in many of the London city warehouses, shops, manufactories, and printing-offices, Derby sweeps are annually organized. In the markets, too, pools are got up over the great event, and in the theatres and music-halls there is always sufficient excitement to induce the artistes to promote a crown or half-sovereign sweep—the servants of the stage following suite with their go at 'a bob' for a ticket: there are in London sweeps for all classes, at all prices.

Some of the Indian and Colonial subscriptions to Derby sweeps attain to very large amounts. The following statement, as will be seen, refers to Bend Or's Derby. 'The sweep this year was the largest ever drawn, with the exception of the one in 1877, when the first prize amounted to over £15,000, over £25,000 having been subscribed. This year 27,062 tickets at £1 each had been taken, and the prize for the first horse amounted to £11,153, for the second £5,576, and for the third £2,788; £459 being divided amongst all starters, except those who got a place, and £688 amongst non-starters. As was stipulated beforehand,

Indian and
Colonial
Derby Sweeps.

£1,148 was placed to the credit of the Umballa Race Fund, and a similar amount was put down as expenses. Bend Or, the first horse, was drawn by a European clerk of the Public Works Department of Simla. I have heard that he had sold his ticket to a European officer for £1,500, and a further £4,000 if the horse came first. Robert the Devil was drawn by a Gundamuck gentleman, and Mask by a Mr. Gordon, of Nizam Hyderabad. Apollo fell to the lot of a Hindoo clerk in a solicitor's office in Bombay, who sold it for £500, and £3,000 if it came first. Valentino was the portion of a little Parsee boy of Bombay, named Badeshir Banaji, *alias* Munshi, who sold it to Captain Beaver for £400, and to get £3,000 more if it came first.'

Some person or another invariably dreams the winner of the Derby, but the name of the horse, or the circumstances which attend the revelation, are not usually made public till after the race has been decided. Several of the dreams, however, have been authenticated, and three or four of them have been not a little remarkable, whilst not a few of them have gone the round, and have been quoted again and again. The dreams and omens with which we have been made familiar seem to have assumed many shapes. Some dreamers appear to see the race and take notice of the jockey and his colours; others see the number of the winning horse hoisted; to others, again, is revealed the name of the winner; whilst some dream that they read the name of the first three on the tissue which comes with the news to

their club. A gentleman—a member of a sporting club—saw one night in his mind's eye during his slumbers the tissue which contained Iroquois first, Peregrine second, Town Moor third. That seer was the special favourite of fortune, as on a previous occasion he dreamt that Rosebery had won the 'Camberwitch,' a dream which, for the moment, puzzled him not a little; but he was clever enough to solve the difficulty by backing the horse for both Cesarewitch and Cambridge-shire, and Rosebery, as is well known, won both of these races.

'Priam!' 'It's Priam that's won, I tell you. I heard the guard say so.' It must have been on the Derby News Saturday forenoon after the Derby of 1830 Long Ago. that I heard these words spoken by a stableman at one of the hotels in the town of Haddington. I did not at the time know to what they related, being then a boy of some six years or so at school there. I soon became enlightened by a bigger boy, who told me Priam was a horse, and that it was the Derby it had won. 'And the Derby—what is that?' was asked by another boy. An explanation was given, and next year some of us boys took such an interest in the race that half a dozen went two miles out of the town to learn the news of Spaniel's victory. A man on horseback was before us, but we heard him get the tip, and, setting spur to his horse, he galloped off to Edinburgh with the news by a cross-road at full gallop. And next Derby the same man I noticed was again in waiting, was again told the name of the winner, and again set off at great speed for Edinburgh. Why he did so I

learned in due time when residing in Edinburgh, but it would seem passing strange if we had nowadays to wait so long for news of our Derby winners ; sixty years since there was no alternative. Those who were desirous of knowing ' what had won ' required to wait for thirty-six or forty hours till the mail brought the news, and on every occasion of a great race the guard might be heard shouting to some little group of people as the coach rattled along, ' Smolensko,' ' Plenipotentiary,' or some other name, and at stations where a halt was made to change horses some interested persons would be waiting to hear the news of a Derby, St. Leger, or other victory. These were not the days of express trains, daily newspapers, or electric telegraphs. In various remote parts of the country the name of the horse that won the Derby was sometimes not known till ten days or a fortnight after the race had been run. On the great mail-roads it was different ; the coachman and guards spread the news as they bowled along, and the name of the winner would in a short time be known by those interested for an area of ten miles on each side of the great coach-routes.

After leaving Haddington, by which town the mail came to Edinburgh, I discovered why a man on horseback had come there—a distance of seventeen miles—to obtain from the guard the news of ' what had won.' On some occasions there were as many as five messengers employed to bring on the news of what horse had won the Derby. I forget now how the stages were arranged, but the horsemen, from their knowledge of the country and

The Uses of
Early
Intelligence.

the speed of their horses, were able on some occasions to beat the stage-coaches by as much as twenty-five minutes, which enabled those who had arranged the express to do a good deal of business, as much, at any rate, as paid all expenses and left 'a bit of profit,' more especially in one or two years in which a pretty hot favourite happened to be beaten. During the 'thirties' and 'forties' a good deal of quiet betting took place on the Derby and some other races in Edinburgh at certain well-known (to the initiated) places of rendezvous. The 'Haddington horse express,' as it came to be called, was planned in one of these, the leading spirit of the enterprise being a well-known hotel-keeper of the Modern Athens, who, along with two or three companions, shared the profits. All that was done was very simple. As a matter of course, there would be from sixty to a hundred people waiting in the different rooms of the Black Bull and other hotels for the news, most of whom had backed something for the race, and betting would go on till the mail reached the post-office. Meantime, the two or three in 'the know' had ample opportunity of laying against the horse that had lost the race, and backing the one that had won it. The mode of anticipation just described was carried on with varying degrees of success for several years.

'Bob Smart,' of the Gun Tavern—'Money Bob,' as he was afterwards called by intimate friends and others for whom he discounted bills—
The Would-be Biters bitten. used to tell about how the tricksters who ran the Haddington express were themselves 'done'

upon one occasion. 'I had something to do with that business,' said Bob one evening to a few friends; 'but it never put much money in my purse, and one year it took a clean hundred pounds out of it in one bet. That was a good few years since: Spaniel's Derby, it was. Well, there was some of us waiting for the news in my room. It wanted a full hour of the time the mail would arrive, and we had no expectation of hearing what had won till about twenty minutes before the time set for the mail. The great favourite for that year's race was a horse called Riddlesworth, which it was said could not lose. I had backed it early on, but could not get good odds. Well, as I was saying, we were all waiting, when two officers from the cavalry barracks at Jock's Lodge sauntered in fully three-quarters of an hour before the news of "what had won" could reach us, and ordered brandy-and-sodas. One of them had a very fine sporting dog with him, which some of my customers greatly admired. "Ah," said one of the officers, "that is the winner—Spaniel, you know." There was a general titter at the idea of Spaniel winning the Derby. "Well, you may laugh as you like, but if any of you want to lay, I'll risk it and back the horse." As I thought they couldn't possibly know the result, I laid him £100 to £3, and I think Charley Fraser laid the other officer £50 to 30s. Having booked their bets and finished their drinks, they left on their way to visit a billiard-room. In about fifteen minutes afterwards our tip came. You can imagine our surprise when we knew it was Spaniel. We had been "had," of course, but dared not say so, as we had "done" the same men over several other races.

I never could learn for certain how the officers had got their information so long before we got ours, but heard afterwards they had obtained the news from the stage before Haddington by means of flying pigeons, one of the sergeants of their regiment having trained them. Before coming to my place they had called in at the Black Bull and laid against the favourite to a good tune, and when they got to the billiard-room they got another hundred about Spaniel.'

Epsom races of the present day and of Amato's time present a wonderful contrast. Private boxes in the stand were undreamt of, and there were no Tattersall's or other enclosures as now. The weighing-room and business offices were in the small building opposite the winning-post at present known as the Anglesey Stand; and after the ring broke up in the town the horsemen reassembled around the 'betting-post' on the hill, near the extremity of the loop of the present Metropolitan Course. A great deal of betting took place in Epsom before the races in those days, and whilst engaged in recording the same I happened to be standing within a couple of yards of Lord George Bentinck on the broad step in front of the Spread Eagle in Running Rein's year (1844), when, with his jockey's betting-book open in his hand, his lordship calmly inquired: 'Has anybody else any bet with Samuel Rogers to compare?' But the taker of the £10,000 to £1,000 against Ratan from Rogers, which figured at the top of a page, did not come forward to verify the origin of what subsequently developed into the historical 'Ratan affair,' that hurried Crockford,

Derby Notes
by 'Pavo' of
the *Morning*
Post.

Ratan's owner, into his grave, and helped to 'pile up the agony' in connection with the most notorious Derby on record. It may be news to many, perhaps, that Lord George Bentinck was the originator of the present system of enclosures, of numbering horses on the cards, of telegraphing the starters and jockeys in accordance therewith, and of starting by the flag system. It was at his instigation, too, that the late Mr. Dorling formed what was then called the 'New Derby Course,' to distinguish it from the original one, of which the first half-mile was out of sight of the occupants of the stand. The start took place on the other side of Sherwood's house, but in Surplice's year it was altered to this side, and the horses entered the old course near the mile-post, which track continued to be used until the formation of the present 'high-level' course, owing to what was known as the 'Studd difficulty,' on that gentleman becoming Lord of the Manor of Walton.

One evening, in the spring of 1828, a small but merry party sat at the dinner-table of that fine old English gentleman, Lord Egremont. The bottle was in active circulation, and the good old peer in great glee—his friends around him, and his racehorses the theme. 'What will you do, my lord, with that Young Whalebone weed in the farther paddock?' quoth one of the guests. 'Sell him,' was the reply. 'The price?' 'A hundred and fifty.' 'He is mine!' That 'weed' was Spaniel, winner of the Derby!

From some cause or other Spaniel went so badly in the Derby betting that before the race he retreated

A Cheap Derby
Winner.

in the betting to 50 to 1. Wheatly, the jockey who had been engaged to ride the horse, had backed his mount to win him £200, but, becoming alarmed, hastened to the man who had laid him the odds to beg off the bet, a request which was good-naturedly complied with. The race ended as has been recorded, with the triumph of jockey and horse. The news of victory in due time reached Mrs. Wheatly, the wife of the fortunate and unfortunate jockey. Overjoyed at the success of her husband, she assembled her neighbours, and provided them with a liberal supper and a supply of good liquor. The jockey's health was drunk with great glee by his wife and the good company. Next morning came a letter from the husband to his loving wife, telling her that he had won the race, but had unluckily begged off all his bets!

'Honest, true, and able,' Frank Buckle left indeed a blank upon the turf, which since his death has never yet been filled. No man was more esteemed in public for integrity, nor in private life for his warm friendship and frank, free demeanour. In private circles he was talkative and cheerful, and owing to the stirring scenes in which he had played so conspicuous a part, his conversation proved an ample fund of information and amusement. He excelled in anecdote, the subject of his remarks being either some well-known public character, some excellent horse, or some feat achieved by the aid of his own consummate judgment. May he rest, as he rode, easily! may he come true to the scale, and may the turf, which he adorned while living, lie light on his grave!

An Incident of
Spaniel's
Derby.

Frank Buckle:
a Eulogy.

Touchstone was not a Derby winner, but he was a good animal, and won the St. Leger at Doncaster ; this horse was greatly prized by his noble owner, and his answer to a would-be purchaser who was desirous of securing the colt for Germany was : ' A German principality could not buy Touchstone.'

Lord West-
minster's Price
for a Horse.

No sooner had the Duke of Westminster's horse won the Derby, than there arose a rumour that Bend Or ' was a wrong one,' and would be objected to. As there is never smoke without fire, so there was truth to a degree in the report. What was asserted was that the animal which won the race was not the horse it was represented to be, and would, therefore, as ' a changeling,' have to be disqualified. It (the rumour or assertion, or what it may be called) proved a false alarm, the babbling of a garrulous old stableman, and within a few days it was seen there was ' nothing in it'; but had it proved true, and led to the disqualification of Bend Or, it would have been a fine thing for the backers of Robert the Devil. Some turfites maintain that horses have been changed before now, and that animals have more than once won important races that, as Polly Eccles says in the play of ' Caste,' ' had no business to win.'

At one period in its history, a case of suicide in connection with the Blue Ribbon was frequently reported ; many of the deaths, however, which were so recorded, might easily have been traced to other causes. The first Derby suicide that is recorded, so far as is known to the writer, is

Derby
Suicides.

that of the Hon. H. A. Berkeley Craven, which took place in Bay Middleton's year. Although no evidence was offered at the inquest that the melancholy event was caused by losses on the race, it was known at the time that if Bay Middleton won he would have been totally unable to defray his racing debts, 'a position which a person of his sensitive feeling of honour was unable to face.' It was stated at the time of the tragic occurrence that he would have been a defaulter to the extent of between £8,000 and £9,000, caused by 'backing the field against Lord Jersey's Bay Middleton.'

The custom of moving the adjournment of the House of Commons over the day appointed for running the Derby began on May 18, 1847, when Lord George Bentinck brought forward a motion of which he had given notice, 'that the House at its rising do adjourn till Thursday.' In doing so, he stated that for more than half a century the Derby Day had been a recognised holiday. The motion was agreed to, as a similar motion has often been since. Joseph Hume and John Bright used to oppose the adjournment of the House for such a purpose. Upon one occasion, when the opposition to the custom was waxing hot—it was in 1860—Lord Palmerston, in answer to the question whether or not the House would adjourn for the Derby, replied, 'To adjourn for that day is part of the unwritten law of Parliament.'

A CHRONICLE OF THE DERBY.

FROM DIOMED TO ~~DOXOVAN.~~

Sainfoin

[The following list of Derby winners, and placed as well as other notable horses, will perhaps prove useful for occasional reference. Incidents of importance are, of course, recorded or alluded to, but no attempt is made in this chronicle to 'swell' the narratives given. As regards four-fifths of the races there is almost nothing, except a very bald record of what took place, to fall back upon; and those struggles for the Derby which at the period gave rise to heated controversies can be now more calmly recorded, points in dispute having long since been fought and settled, or, if not 'settled,' having been by consent abandoned, each party retaining their own opinion. No consecutive account of the great race, so far as the writer is aware, has ever been attempted; but a foundation having here been now laid, it will not prove a difficult task to indite at some future time a fuller account.]

It was on Thursday, May 4th, 1780, that the first race for the Derby Stakes was run; there were thirty-six subscribers. The field numbered
1780. Diomed. nine horses, the terms of the contest being stated as follows: 'The Derby Stakes of 50 guineas each, half forfeit, for three-year-old colts, 8 st.; and fillies, 7 st. 11 lb.; one mile.' The winning horse proved to be Diomed, a chestnut colt by Florizel out of sister to Juno, by Spectator, and was the property of Sir Charles Bunbury. No record is extant of how the race was run, or how far it was won, but a complete

list of the competing horses has been preserved, and the places they obtained. The horse which is recorded as running second is Major O'Kelly's b. c. Boudrow, brother to Vertumnus, by Eclipse; Spitfire, the horse placed third, was also by Eclipse out of Houghton's dam, and was the property of Mr. Walker; Sir F. Evelyn, Mr. Panton, jun., H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, Mr. Sulsh, Mr. Delme and the Duke of Bolton, also ran horses in the first race for the Derby. The winning jockey was S. Arnull, who was so fortunate as to have the mount on the victorious horses of 1782, 1787, and 1798. The betting is quoted as follows: 6 to 4 against Diomed; 4 to 1 against Boudrow; 7 to 1 against Spitfire, and 10 to 1 against the Duke of Bolton's colt. The value of the stakes would be 1,015 guineas. The compiler of this chronology has not been successful in his search for a complete list of the subscribers, which would undoubtedly prove of great interest. The Messrs. Weatherby state that the race did not close till the horses were two-year-olds, and that the race was made 'to be continued the following year,' which phrase may be taken to mean that the subscribers pledged themselves to subscribe again. One at least of the newspapers of the period mentioned the event, and another journal tells of the break-down of a one-horse chaise on the road home from Epsom. No public interest, in fact, had yet attached itself to a race ultimately destined to become so celebrated. Horse-racing in the first year of the Derby was only one of the sports of Epsom; there was cock-fighting as well: and in the year 1780 the Epsom programme had been strengthened with a

cock-fight between the gentlemen of Middlesex and Surrey and the gentlemen of Wiltshire. From the fact of Diomed starting favourite, the success of Sir Charles Bunbury's colt seems to have been expected. All the nine starters seem to have been 'placed,' but according to some writers, the judge placed the first four animals only, and these, in accordance with the fashion of the period, were simply designated as Mr. So-and-So's b. c. or b. f., as the case might be. The history of the horse which won the first Derby Stakes may be briefly related. Diomed was purchased as a foal from the Hon. Richard Vernon, of Newmarket, and, as Sir Walter Scott would have said, was 'come of good kith and kin'; among his ancestors on the dam's side being Childers, as also the Paget Turk and the Leedes Arabian. Previous to winning the Derby Diomed had been recorded victor in a race for a sweepstakes of 500 guineas each, six subscribers, run at the Spring Meeting held at Newmarket, and in which he carried 8 st. According to the list of winning horses for the year 1780, published in the Racing Calendar for that season, Diomed won, for Sir Charles Bunbury, the Derby Stakes of 1,015 guineas, and other races which increased the total sum to 5,165 guineas. Diomed as a four-year-old won several races of considerable value. At the Newmarket Craven Meeting he received forfeit from Susannah, b. c., 500 guineas, h. ft.; he won the Fortescue Stakes of 300 guineas each, eleven subscribers; and he also won the Claret Stakes of 200 guineas each, h. ft., fourteen subscribers. At Nottingham he experienced the bitters of defeat by Fortitude, and was also beaten by

Boudrow, the horse which ran second to him at Epsom, and which he had previously defeated at Newmarket in the big sweepstakes referred to. Diomed did not run in the year 1782, and in the following year, although he won the King's Purse in three four-mile heats, it was his fate to be beaten on six occasions. Falling lame, the horse was turned out of training, and relegated to the stud, where he covered at various places at fees varying from five to ten guineas, and was ultimately sold by his owner for fifty guineas, at the end of 1798, to go to America, where he was resold for a sum of one thousand guineas. He died, however, soon after changing hands.

A complete list of the horses comprising 'the field' for the first race for the Derby cannot fail to prove interesting:

Sir C. Bunbury's ch. c. Diomed, by Florizel out of sister to Juno, by Spectator - - - - -	1
Major O'Kelly's b. c. Boudrow, brother to Vertumnus, by Eclipse - - - - -	2
Mr. Walker's c. Spitfire, by Eclipse out of Houghton's dam -	3
Sir F. Evelyn's b. c. Wotton, by Vauxhall Snap out of Miranda	4
Mr. Panton, jun.'s c. by Herod, dam by Blank - - - - -	5
Duke of Cumberland's c. by Eclipse, dam by Spectator - - -	6
Mr. Sulsh's b. c. by Cardinal Puff out of Eloisa - - - - -	7
Mr. Delme's gr. c. by Gimcrack out of Haras (Wolsey's dam)	8
Duke of Bolton's b. c. Bay Bolton, by Matchem out of Brown Regulus - - - - -	9

The winner of the Oaks—for which eleven fillies came to the starting-post—was Tectotum, named by Mr. Douglas. The first race for the Oaks was run in the preceding year, when Bridget, the property of Lord Derby, proved successful; there were seventeen subscribers.

Although there was a subscriber less to the race of 1781, six additional starters came to the post. Victory fell to Major O'Kelly, his horse Young ^{1781.} Eclipse. Eclipse, by Eclipse, ridden by Hindley, being placed first by the judge; Sir J. Lade's colt Crop, by Turf, being second; and Lord Clermont's Prince of Orange, by Herod, third. The winner started at 10 to 1, Crop being favourite at 5 to 4, with 'high odds against any other.' The Duke of Cumberland, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Sulsh again ran the colts they had entered. In addition to his horse Prince of Orange, Lord Clermont also ran a colt, named Arbutus, brother to Florus. The Duke of Queensberry, Lord Derby, Lord Milfintown, and Lord Craven also ran horses in the second Derby. Other gentlemen who ran their colts were General Smith, Mr. Kingsman, Mr. Douglas, and Sir C. Danvers. It is impossible to give particulars, no record of the running being apparently in existence. The conditions of the race were in no way changed from those which pertained to the struggle of the preceding year. Value of stakes 1,250 guineas. Eclipse, which was the sire of this year's winner, and of two other heroes of the Derby, namely, Saltram (1783) and Serjeant (1784), has 'a history' which, although it has been often enough related, may be again briefly told. If all that has been written about him can be believed, he was a wonderful horse; but as the timing of races was unknown in the days of O'Kelly's colt, it is quite on the cards that we have had in these latter days even better, or let us say faster, horses. Still, it would not be fair to underestimate Eclipse, who was claimed as the sire of 335

winners, who took among them a sum of £160,000, besides a number of cups and plates. His career on the turf extended to one year and five months (and, be it noted, he only made his *début* when he was a five-year-old), during which he won for his owners a sum of £2,500—a large amount in those days. Eclipse was bred by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, who ran horses in the Derby of 1781, 1782, and 1783 without success. At the death of His Royal Highness he became the property of Mr. Wildman, a sheep salesman, who purchased him for the insignificant sum of 75 guineas; the price paid by O'Kelly for a half-share in this turf gold-mine was 250 guineas; and ultimately Eclipse became the sole property of the Irish sportsman for an additional sum of 750 guineas, making 1,000 in all. During his short reign on the turf he was never beaten. The following horses of his 'get,' in addition to the three which attained the first place, ran in the Derby, namely, Spitfire, who was third in 1780; Alphonso (in addition to the winner), 1781; Achilles and Plutus, 1782; Dungannon second, and Cornet, not placed, in addition to the winner, in 1783; besides Mr. Davis's ch. c., by Herod, dam by Eclipse—four out of the six animals which composed the field in that year were by Eclipse. Serjeant, by Eclipse, won the Derby of 1784; next year Chaunter and Clarinet represented this grand sire. In 1786 Meteor was second, and Scota unplaced; both of these were by Eclipse. Gunpowder, second in 1787, and Aurelius, second in the succeeding year, continued the story; whilst an Eclipse colt ran in the colours of the Prince of Wales in the Derby of 1789, in which year His Royal Highness had

two horses running in the great Epsom event. Another Eclipse colt ran in 1791, the last of the direct line, so far as the Derby is concerned; but the winner of the Derby in the following season was John Bull, by Fortitude out of Zantippe, sister to Don Quixote, by Eclipse.

Lord Grosvenor's Faith proved the winner of this year's Oaks, for which six competitors went to the post.

In the rubric of the race for this year appears the statement (see Orton's 'Annals of the Turf'), 'The owner of the second horse received 100 guineas out of the stakes,' which is the only alteration in the conditions. There was again an entry of thirty-five colts, as in the preceding year, and the field of competitors numbered thirteen animals, being two less than in the Derby of the year before. The race was won by Lord Egremont's b. c. Assassin, by Sweetbriar out of Angelica, by Snap, the successful jockey being again S. Arnull. Sweet Robin was made favourite at the start at the price of 3 to 1; 5 to 1 against Assassin, and 10 to 1 against Fortunio. The value of the stakes would amount to 1,200 guineas, 1,100 of which would fall to the owner of the winning horse.

The following list comprises the names and pedigrees of the runners:

Lord Egremont's b. c. Assassin, by Sweetbriar out of Angelica,	
by Snap - - - - -	1
Lord Grosvenor's b. c. Sweet Robin, by Sweetbriar out of	
Bonduca, by Bandy - - - - -	2
Sir C. Bunbury's b. c. Fortunio, by Florizel out of Nettletrap	3
Duke of Bolton's ch. c. Achilles, by Eclipse; Mr.	
O'Kelly's ch. c. Confederate, by Conductor; Mr.	

Napier's b. c. Glancer, by Herod; Mr. Turner's b. c. by Ranthos; Mr. Vernon's b. c. Berwick, by Florizel; Lord Clermont's ch. c. Flirtator, by Conductor; Duke of Cumberland's b. c. Epaminondas, by Herod; Mr. Parker's c. Ascot, by Herod; Mr. Fox's c. Brutus, by Mark Antony; Sir W. Moore's b. c. Plutus, by Eclipse.

So far as can be ascertained, no particulars of the Derby of 1782, the third of the series, ever were published, the race not having then attracted the attention of journalists. Notices of the sires of Derby winners are, however, not difficult to discover in the sporting magazines of the period, and the turf histories which have been compiled from them. Eclipse has been already noticed. The sire of the first winner of 'the Blue Ribbon of the Turf' was Florizel, who was also the sire of Eager, who won the race in 1791 for the Duke of Bedford, and in 1792 and 1793 gave two winners of the St. Leger, in Lord A. Hamilton's Tartar, and Mr. Clifton's Ninety-Three. Sweetbriar, sire of Assassin, was a chestnut, and was foaled in 1769, bred by Mr. Thomas Meredith, and sold to Lord Grosvenor. He won several important events in his day, and was never beaten, but he paid forfeits on three occasions. Sweetbriar, while the property of his lordship, stood as a sire, and came into considerable request at a considerable fee for the period, namely, 25 guineas and 30 guineas. He was sold at Tattersall's, in 1790, for the sum of 20 guineas. A list of thirty winners, of which Sweetbriar was the sire, is contained in Whyte's 'History of the Turf,' Assassin being of the number.

With odds of 7 to 4 betted on her, Lord Grosvenor's

Ceres won this year's Oaks, beating eleven competitors.

Only six of the thirty-four horses entered started for the Derby of 1783, the winner proving to be Saltram, a colt nominated by Mr. Parker. It was
 1783. Saltram. described as brother to Speranza, by Eclipse out of Virago, by Snap, and gave another winning mount to Hindley, who rode Young Eclipse on the second of the series of races for the Derby. Colonel O'Kelly ran second with Dungannon, also 'an Eclipse horse;' the same gentleman ran another 'Eclipse,' named Cornet. The colt which was placed third was Mr. Stapleton's Parlinton, by Morwick Ball out of Miss Skeggs, by Matchem. The other runners were the Duke of Queensberry's Gonzales, brother to Slander, by Herod, placed fourth, and Mr. Davis's ch. c. by Herod, dam by Eclipse. Betting on the race: 5 to 2 against Saltram, 5 to 2 against Cornet, 5 to 1 Dungannon, 8 to 1 Gonzales, 10 to 1 the other two colts. It is not stated whether or not the 100 guineas to the second horse was bestowed this year. Value of the stakes, 900 guineas.

The Oaks of this year also fell to Lord Grosvenor, by the aid of his ch. filly Maid of the Oaks, which started favourite (4 to 1 against), beating nine others.

The race still continues to be run on Thursday. This year it was decided on May 20th, victory falling
 1784. Serjeant. to Colonel O'Kelly, by means of Serjeant, by Eclipse out of Aspasia, by Herod, who was ridden by J. Arnull. Lord Grosvenor's gr. c. Carlo

Khan, by Manbrino out of Pigeon, was second; and Lord Derby's *Dancer*, by Herod, ran third. Other runners were the Duke of Cumberland's *Fencer*, which was placed fourth, the Duke de Chartres' *Cantator*, Lord Derby's *Collector*, Sir C. Danver's *Pitch*, Sir Charles Bunbury's *Pharamond*, Mr. Stapleton's (unnamed at the time) ch. c. by Herod, dam by *Goldfinder*, Mr. Douglas's colt *Ishmael*, Lord G. H. Cavendish's br. c. *Steady*; thus eight of the horses were nominated by persons of high rank. The following is a brief chronicle of the state of the odds at the start: 3 to 1 against *Serjeant*, 5 to 1 *Pitch* and *Dancer*, 20 to 1 *Carlo Khan*. There were thirty subscribers, and, as has been enumerated, eleven starters. The value of the stakes was 1,025 guineas. The weights for the Derby were this year fixed as follows: colts, 8 st. 3 lb.; fillies, 8 st. The distance to be run was also increased, the condition in that respect being 'the last mile and a half.'

Mr. Burlton's *Stella* won the Oaks, starting at the nice price of 20 to 1. *Lady Teazle*, who had been made favourite, only obtained second honours. She was the property of Lord Derby.

A few words are all that need be said about the Derby of 1785, which was won by Lord Clermont's
 1785. b. c. *Aimwell*, by Mark Antony out of sister
 Aimwell. to Postmaster, by Herod, ridden by G. Hindley. Value of the race, 975 guineas. Lord Grosvenor's *Grantham* was second (it was favourite in the betting, at 2 to 1). Mr. Wastell's *Verjuice* was placed third. Mr. O'Kelly started two of his horses in the race. Lord Grosvenor's *Vulean* also ran. Sir F.

Standish, Lord Foley, and Lord Sherborne also ran horses. Aimwell, the winner, started at 7 to 1. There were twenty-nine subscribers to the Derby of 1785.

Lord Clermont had the good fortune to win the Oaks as well as the Derby of 1785, being the first owner to secure the double event. Mr. Parker nearly achieved the same feat in the year 1783, when he won the Derby with Saltram, and was second for the 'Garter of the Turf' with Hebe; in the previous year Lord Grosvenor ran second for the Derby with Sweet Robin, and won the Oaks with Ceres, having taken the same race in the previous season by the aid of Faith, and became again the recipient of the 'Garter of the Turf' in the following year (1783), when Maid of the Oaks won. Trifle, the Oaks victress of 1785, was escorted to the winning-post by Lord Egremont's sister to Camilla, who got second place; Miss Kitty, the property of the Prince of Wales, being third, whilst Mr. O'Kelly's Boniface was placed fourth.

With odds of 30 to 1 betted against him, Mr. Panton's Noble, ridden by J. White, won the Derby of 1786.

^{1786.} The winner was by Highflyer out of Brim,
Noble. by Squirrel. The other horses which ran, fifteen out of the twenty-nine entered, belonged chiefly to persons of title. The Dukes of Orleans and Queensberry each contributed a runner, so did His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales; Lord Grosvenor ran two of his colts, whilst Lord Clermont (who won the race in the preceding year) and Lord G. A. Cavendish each supplied a competitor, as did also Mr. Wyndham and Mr. Douglas. Mr. O'Kelly had two running that year.

The judge awarded second honours to Lord Grosvenor's Meteor, the third place being occupied by Sir H. Featherstonhaugh's Smart, afterwards Claret. *Scota*, one of Mr. O'Kelly's pair, started favourite with odds of 2 to 1 betted against her. The date of the race this year was Wednesday, May 31st. *Highflyer*, the sire of this year's Derby winner, has a history. He was a celebrated horse, ranking about third in fame in the days of his career—*Childers* and *Eclipse* only coming before him. His sire was *King Herod*, his dam *Rachel*, by *Blank*. *Highflyer* was foaled in 1774, and died in October, 1793; he was bred by Sir C. Bunbury, who won the first Derby with *Diomed*; afterwards he became the property of Viscount Bolingbroke, and was then sold to Mr. Richard Tattersall, and is said to have laid the foundation of the fortunes of that family. The horse had a famous career on the turf; he was never beaten, and never paid forfeit, and was probably the best horse of his day. His winnings are said to have amounted to the sum of £9,000, a large amount for the period. *Highflyer*, so soon as he had ceased to race, stood as a stallion at the country seat of his owner—*Highflyer Hall*, at *Ely*, in *Cambridgeshire*, where he became the sire of an uncommon number of really good horses, who in time made their mark either on the turf or at the stud.

‘By his prolific deeds was built a court,
Near where famed *Ely's* lofty turrets rise;
To this famed sultan would all ranks resort,
To stir him up to am'rous enterprise.’

It has been calculated that the progeny of *Highflyer* won in stakes, from 1783 to 1801, a sum of over

£170,000. He sired three winners of the Derby, four winners of the St. Leger, and one winner of the Oaks, whilst his sons, in their turn, became sires of many other classic celebrities, the names of which will be found in the following pages. Other two of the sons of Highflyer ran in the Derby of 1786, in addition to the winner. The value of the stakes was 1,100 guineas.

No less than three of Highflyer's daughters took part in the Oaks of the same year, one of them, Letitia, being second to Sir F. Standish's chestnut, the Yellow Filly, by Tandem out of Perdita; the third in the race was Scota, which also ran in the Derby—the second instance of a filly taking part in that race. There were twenty-four subscribers to the Oaks of 1786, and thirteen came to the post. J. Edwards rode the winner.

On Thursday, May 24th, the following
 1787.
 Sir Peter seven horses started for the Derby of the
 Teazole. period :

Lord Derby's br. c. Sir Peter Teazole, by Highflyer out of	
Papillon - - - - -	1
Mr. O'Kelly's ch. c. Gunpowder, by Eclipse - - - -	2
Mr. Vernon's ch. c. Bustler, by Florizel - - - -	3

Lord Grosvenor's br. c. Mentor, by Justice out of Sweetbriar's dam; Lord Grosvenor's b. c. Whitelegs, by Justice out of sister to Sweetbriar; Mr. Charlton's gr. c. Twitch, by Pontifex; Mr. Aston's c. by Highflyer.

Betting: 7 to 4 against Bustler, 2 to 1 against Sir Peter Teazole, 3 to 1 against Lord Grosvenor, and 8 to 1 against Gunpowder. Value of the stakes, 1,000 guineas.

From the above list it will be seen that the seventh

Derby was won by a horse belonging to the nobleman who originated the contest, or, at all events, after whom it was named. He had courted fortune previously, with King William in 1781, and with Dancer and Collector in 1784, but without success. He was more fortunate in the Oaks, 'The Garter' having fallen to him the first time of asking, and again in 1794. The Earl only secured one Derby, but he ran third in 1790, with Lee Boo, and secured the same place with Bustard in 1792; in the following year his lordship's horse, Kidney, was unplaced, and in 1801 his *g. e.*, by Sir Peter, was placed seventh in Orton's list of runners. That the twelfth Earl of Derby was a famous breeder of horses, a right good sportsman, and one of the 'fine old English country gentlemen' of his day, there is abundant evidence to show. His lordship lived to the great age of eighty-three years: his personal character has been alluded to in a previous page; here, however, it will be appropriate to say something about his stud of horses, and those of them which became distinguished on the turf. It is said that the winner of this year's Derby was named Sir Peter Teazle as a compliment to his Countess, the vivacious and beautiful Miss Farren, whom he elevated from the stage to the peerage, one of whose fine histrionic assumptions was the heroine of Sheridan's most brilliant comedy. Sir Peter, who gained for his lordship 'the Blue Ribbon of the Turf' in the year 1787, was descended from the famous Godolphin Arabian. That fine colt was bred by the lord of Knowsley himself, and was renowned for his speed; he was foaled in 1784, and during his three

and four years old career he earned a great reputation and won for his noble owner a large sum of money in stakes. It has to be said of Sir Peter Teazle that the fame he acquired on the race-course was perpetuated in the breeding paddocks, where his fee rose from ten to thirty guineas, and horses of his 'get' long continued to make their mark on the English turf. He sired in his time a large number of winning horses, and, among others, the following winners of the Derby : Sir Harry, Archduke, Ditto, and Paris, as also Ambrosio, winner of the St. Leger of 1796 ; likewise three consecutive winners of the same race, 1806, 1807, and 1808 : these were Fyldener, Paulina and Petronius. Two Oaks heroines were got by the same sire, Hermione and Parasote. Sir Peter Teazle attained the venerable age of thirty years, and stood at the stud to the last. In the earlier half of his career as a stud horse he earned an immense reputation, so great, indeed, as to induce numerous applications for his purchase, among others one of 7,000 guineas from the American Consul. 'Nay,' replied his lordship, 'I have already refused an offer of 10,000 guineas for Sir Peter.'

The Oaks of the year was won by a filly named Annette, the property of Mr. Vernon ; she was accompanied to the post by seven others, of which three were supplied by Lord Grosvenor. There were twenty-four subscribers.

This year's 'Blue Ribbon,' competed for on Thursday,
1788. May 8th, fell to His Royal Highness the
Sir Thomas. Prince of Wales, his horse, Sir Thomas,
having beaten the ten who raced with him for the

trophy. There were thirty horses nominated for the race, and the following is the list of those who ran :

Prince of Wales' ch. c. Sir Thomas, by Pontac out of Sports-	
mistress - - - - -	1
Lord Grosvenor's ch. c. Aurelius, by Eclipse, dam by Blank -	2
Lord Barrymore's b. c. Feenow, by Tandem out of Crop's	
dam - - - - -	3
Lord Foley's ch. c. Altamont, by Garrick, dam by Herod -	4
Mr. Fox's gr. c. Grey Diomed, by Diomed out of Grey Dori-	
mont - - - - -	5

Also ran : Duke of St. Alban's b. c. brother to Cowslip, by Highflyer ; Mr. Taylor's b. c. Star, by Highflyer ; Lord Clermont's b. c. Ponto, by Il'mio ; Duke of Queensberry's b. c. Golia, by Giant ; Mr. Lade's ch. c. Conflans, by Woodpecker ; Mr. Hall's ch. c. by Jupiter out of Amaranda.

Betting : 6 to 5 *on* Sir Thomas and 5 to 2 against Aurelius. Value of the stakes, 925 guineas.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, afterwards 'His Majesty George the Fourth,' was for a time a keen votary of the sport of kings, and although in some matters he was probably more sinned against than sinning, he found his name in bad odour, most unkind things being said regarding the running of some of his horses, and the equivocal conduct of Samuel Chifney, his jockey. The story of Escape does not belong in any way to the Derby, but what was called 'the out and in' running of that horse, on two occasions, gave rise to some scandal which led to the withdrawal of His Royal Highness from all turf pursuits, and, four years later, to the publication, by his jockey, of that celebrated work 'Genius Genuine,' a most interesting book, now very rare, the reprint even being

scarce. The Escape affair is thus briefly narrated in Whyte's 'History of the British Turf': 'On the 20th October, 1791, the Prince of Wales' best horse, Escape, ridden by the late Samuel Chifney, was beat by Coriander (by two lengths) and Skylark, for the Plate, for which he was the favourite in the betting, "Ditch In." On the following day, the betting being 4 and 5 to 1 against Escape, this horse, jockeyed again by Chifney, beat Skylark and other horses easily. Upon this a great outcry was raised at Newmarket by the losers, who did not hesitate to say that Chifney had rode to lose on the 20th, and that the Prince of Wales was implicated in the cheat.' The Prince gave up racing for a time, having, as we have read, 'been hounded off the turf in consequence of his popularity,' which was unbounded; he had made himself, without any sacrifice of dignity, 'everybody's body:' he was vociferously cheered whenever he appeared. The Prince returned to the turf again in 1826, when he followed the pastime with greater ardour than before. His chief advisers were the Chifneys, whom he engaged to manage and ride his horses, some of which were bought at big prices.

The Oaks was won by Lord Egremont's Nightshade. His lordship, who was a keen sportsman, had tried several times to obtain the 'Garter of the Turf,' and now his ambition was gratified. There were seven runners out of eighteen nominations; the winning jockey was again Fitzpatrick. The Duke of Bedford ran second with Busy, and Mr. Wastell's filly by Alfred out of Magnolia was third. The Duke of Grafton, Lord Grosvenor, Sir F. Standish, Lord G. H. Cavendish,

comprised the other owners who ran their fillies in the race. The betting was 2 to 1 *on* Nightshade.

The Derby Stakes run for on Thursday, May 28th, of this year, was of the value of 1,025 guineas.

Eleven out of the thirty horses entered ^{1789.} Skyscraper. started for the race, which was won by the favourite, ridden by the senior Chifney.

Duke of Bedford's b. c. Skyscraper, by Highflyer out of Everlasting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Duke of Bedford's b. c. Sir George, by Bordeaux out of Dancer's dam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Lord Grosvenor's b. c. brother to Skylark, by Highflyer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Prince of Wales' ch. c. Soujah ul Dowlah, by Eclipse out of Duchess	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Prince of Wales' ch. c. Cheyt Sing, by Eclipse or Vertumnus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5

The following also ran: Lord G. H. Cavendish's ch. c. Competitor, by Eclipse; Lord Grosvenor's ch. c. by Pot-8-os out of Maid of the Oaks; Duke of St. Alban's b. c. Bashful, by Highflyer; Lord Barrymore's br. c. Sir Christopher, by Evergreen; Mr. Lade's gr. c. by Pantaloon; Lord Egremont's b. c. Sublimate, by Mercury out of Blemish. Betting: 7 to 4 *on* Skyscraper, 7 to 2 against Soujah ul Dowlah, 100 to 8 against the Pot-8-os colt. This year was truly an aristocratic Derby, so far, at all events, as the owners of the running horses were concerned—a prince, two dukes, and four lords all supplying competitors, three of them being doubly represented. His Grace the Duke of Bedford won the Derby on two other occasions. An opportunity has been taken in a preceding page of this volume to refer to him and his horses, and to take note of his career as a sportsman.

The Oaks was again won by Lord Egremont, by the aid of Tag, by Trentham out of Venus, by Eclipse, the jockey on this occasion being the senior Chifney. Lord Grosvenor ran second with his filly by Justice out of Cypher; Mr. Vernon's Hope was third. A fourth was also placed; it was the Duke of Grafton's Daffodil, by Magnet out of Hebe. The Duke of Bedford had also a runner, whilst Lord Clermont swelled the field with two of his fillies. The betting at the start was 5 to 2 against Tag and Hope, 5 to 1 against Daffodil.

Of the thirty-two entries for the Derby of this year ten came to the starting-post on Thursday, May 20th, when

1790. Rhadaman- thus.	Lord Grosvenor ran first and second, beating all his aristocratic companions in arms. The following list will show the strength of the field:
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Lord Grosvenor's br. c.	Rhadamanthus, by Justice out of Flyer	1
Lord Grosvenor's ch. c.	Asparagus, by Pot-8-os, dam by Justice	2
Lord Derby's b. c.	Lee Boo, brother to Hope, by Florizel	- 3
Prince of Wales' b. c.	Chambooe, by Mambrino out of Tabitha	4
Mr. Panton's b. c.	Griffin, by Woodpecker out of Hyæna	- 5

There also ran: the Prince of Wales' b. c. Fitzwilliam, brother to Rockingham; Lord Foley's Rattler, by Imperator; Lord Clermont's b. c. Bagho, brother to Markho; Duke of Queensberry's gr. c. Burgundy, by Bordeaux; Mr. Panton's b. c. Ostrich, by Woodpecker. Betting: 5 to 4 against Rhadamanthus, 4 to 1 against Asparagus, 5 to 1 against Griffin, 7 to 1 against Lee Boo. The winner was ridden by J. Arnall. Value of stakes, 1,050 guineas. Lord Grosvenor in his day was a more than ordinarily fortunate sportsman, seeing

Betting: 5 to 2 against Crazy, 3 to 1 against Mistletoe, 6 to 1 against Hippolyta, 10 to 1 against Louisa.

Nine horses selected from the thirty-two nominated came to the post to compete for the 'Blue Ribbon' of

1791. June 9th, 1791, when the Duke of Bedford
Eager. was accorded the trophy. His grace also won the Oaks, with Portia. The following list embraces all the horses that started for the Derby, of which four seem to have been placed by the judge:

Duke of Bedford's br. c. Eager, by Florizel out of Fidget's dam	- - - - -	1
Lord Foley's br. c. Vermin, by Highflyer out of Rosebud	- - - - -	2
Lord Egremont's b. c. Proteus, by Mercury out of Pastorella	- - - - -	3
Prince of Wales' ch. c. St. David, by Saltram	- - - - -	4

Prince of Wales' b. c. by Highflyer, dam by Engineer; Mr. Vernon's gr. c. by Garrick out of Blowzy; Sir Charles Bunbury's b. c. Playfellow, by Diomed, dam by Turf; Mr. Graham's ch. c. by Eclipse, dam by Pincher; Lord Grosvenor's br. c. Gumeistus, by Pot-8-os out of Elfrida. Betting: 5 to 4 against Vermin, 5 to 2 against Eager, 8 to 1 against St. David, 10 to 1 against Proteus. The name of the winning jockey was Stephenson, and the value of the stakes would amount to 1,025 guineas.

None but persons of title ran their fillies in the Oaks, among others the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of Grafton and Bedford, as also Lords Grosvenor, Barrymore, and Egremont. The subscription list for 1791 included thirty-eight fillies, as against the eighteen of the three previous years, and the twenty-four of 1785, 1786, and 1787, which is some proof that the race was

by this time increasing in favour with owners and nominators. His Grace the Duke of Bedford was this year again the fortunate recipient of the 'Garter of the Turf.' The name of the winner was Portia, by Volunteer out of sister to Sting, by Herod. J. Singleton was the jockey; and the betting at the start was 5 to 2 against the winner. There were nine starters for the race, Lord Grosvenor's Astræa being second, Sir F. Poole's Kezia third. The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Grafton, and Lord Egremont were also represented in the race, which took place on Friday, June 10th.

This year, for the third time in succession, there were thirty-two subscriptions taken out ^{1792.} John Bull. for the Derby of May 24th, for which the following colts came to the post:

Lord Grosvenor's ch. c. John Bull, by Fortitude out of Zantippe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lord Clermont's b. c. Speculator, by Trumpator out of Fantail's dam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Lord Derby's b. c. Bustard, by Woodpecker out of Matron, by Alfred	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mr. Graham's ch. c. Lyricus, by Dungannon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Mr. Wyndham's b. c. St. George, by Highflyer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Prince of Wales' b. c. Whiskey, by Saltram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Duke of Queensberry's bl. c. by Pharamond out of Pecker's dam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7

Betting: 6 to 4 on John Bull, 5 to 2 against Bustard, 8 to 1 against Whiskey, 100 to 1 against Speculator. The value of the stakes would this year be 795 guineas. Some notice has already been taken of John Bull: Whiskey, who became the sire of Eleanor, who in 1801 was hailed winner of the double event of Derby and Oaks, as also of Pelisse, who won 'The

Garter' for the Duke of Grafton, in 1804, must be passed over in the meantime. For the first time the name of the winning jockey (F. Buckle) is given this year in Orton's 'Annals of the Turf.' He was one of the most celebrated horsemen of his time, and won the Derby on five occasions; on two occasions he won the St. Leger, on Champion in 1800 (a horse which won the Derby of the same year), and on Sancho in 1804.

F. Buckle was successful in winning the Oaks no less than eight times, three of his victories being gained in consecutive years. Lord Grosvenor also ran third in the Oaks of this year, which was won by Lord Clermont's *Violante*, the same nobleman's *Trumpetta* being second, Lord Grosvenor being third with *Boldface*. *Eleven* ran, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Grafton, Lord Barrymore, Lord Egremont, and Lord Winchelsea, all having representatives in the race. C. Hindley was the pilot of the winner. The betting was '5 to 4 the field against *Trumpetta* and *Violante*.'

As will be seen from the following complete list of starters, ten of the horses competing belonged to gentlemen of title; indeed, this must be
 1793. put down as a somewhat memorable year,
 Waxf. seeing that the number of subscriptions had reached fifty, and that the race was run in the presence of the Prince of Wales. The day on which the Derby of 1793 was decided was Thursday, May 16th. The names of the thirteen horses which took part in the struggle are as follows:

Sir F. Poole's b. c. Waxy, by Pot-8-os out of Maria, by Herod	1
Lord Egremont's b. c. Gohanna, brother to Precipitate, by Mercury	2
Lord Grosvenor's b. c. Triptolemus, by Pot-8-os	3
Lord Grosvenor's ch. c. Druid, by Pot-8-os	4
Mr. Hull's ch. c. Xanthus, by Volunteer	5
Sir F. Standish's gr. c. Darsham, by Crop, dam by Herod	6

Also ran the following: Lord Derby's b. c. Kidney, by Pot-8-os; Lord Strathmore's ch. c. by Mercury out of Cowslip; Lord Grosvenor's b. c. Lilliput, by Pot-8-os; Lord Grosvenor's ch. c. by Pot-8-os out of Perdita; Mr. Kaye's ch. c. Gay Deceiver, by Phænomenon out of Recovery; Sir F. Poole's b. c. Mealey, by Pot-8-os; Mr. Philip's b. c. Brother to King David, by Highflyer.

Betting: 11 to 10 *on* Gohanna, 8 to 1 against Xanthus, 10 to 1 against Druid, 12 to 1 against Waxy. Clift rode the winner. Value, 1,575 guineas.

Orton gives the following note: 'This race was decided in the presence of as numerous a company as was ever before witnessed. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales appeared on the course about half-past twelve o'clock, and in a few minutes after the horses started. Gohanna took the lead, and made running up to Tattenham Corner, where Waxy passed him, was never headed, and won very easy. Waxy was so little thought of for the race, that at Tattersall's rooms his name was never mentioned.' As will be seen from the list of runners, Pot-8-os sired no less than seven of the runners, including the winner, and Pot-8-o's colts had run in three previous Derbys. Pot-8-os won, or walked over, for about twenty-five races during his career on the turf, and afterwards became

celebrated as a sire; a majority of the Derby winners claim to be of his blood. This great horse was got by Eclipse out of Sportsmistress, foaled in 1773; he died early in November, 1800. A curious anecdote is related as to how he came by his name of 'Pot-8-os.' It was always intended by his breeder, Lord Abingdon, that he should be called *Potatoes*, and upon the occasion of his lordship mentioning to his trainer that such was his intention, a stable lad who had been listening to the conversation could not refrain from uttering a hearty 'Oh my!' This tickled the fancy of Lord Abingdon, who then asked the boy if he could write; and on being answered in the affirmative, replied: 'Well, my lad, take that bit of chalk, and write down the name on the top of the corn-chest, and you shall have a crown if you do it correctly.' The boy took the chalk, and wrote the word his own way, as some say 'Pot-8-os,' and as others say *Potoooooooooos*. No matter which of these ways it was, the boy got the crown, and his lordship adopted the boy's orthography. Pot-8-os was also the sire of the Derby winners of 1800 and 1802. Waxy in turn became the sire of four winners of the 'Blue Ribbon'—1809, 1810, 1814, 1815—and Whalebone, one of Waxy's colts, of three winners; whilst Gohanna, the second in the Derby of 1793, became the sire of Cardinal Beaufort, the winner of the Derby in 1805. Waxy also contributed three winners of the Oaks.

The Oaks of 1793 was run on Friday, May 17th, upon which occasion there were thirty-seven subscribers and ten competitors, the Duke of Bedford carrying off the prize by the aid of Cælia, who was ridden by J.

Singleton, and who started for the race with odds of 4 to 1 against her. Black Puss, the property of Mr. Golding, was second, the Duke of Bedford's Rachael being third.

Although the entries were but one less than in the previous year, forty-nine against fifty, only four horses started for the Derby of this year, which
 1794. Dædalus. was run on Thursday, June 5th. The following are the four colts which comprised the field, the smallest that ever started for the race :

Lord Grosvenor's br. c. Dædalus, by Justice out of Flyer, by Sweetbriar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lord Egremont's br. c. Ragged Jack, by Highflyer out of Camillia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Duke of Bedford's ch. c. Leon, by Dungannon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Lord Grosvenor's b. c. Young Drone, out of Anna	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

Betting: 5 and 6 to 4 *on* Leon, 2 to 1 against Ragged Jack, 6 to 1 Dædalus. The successful jockey was F. Buckle, and the value of the stakes would amount to 1,325 guineas. The second horse received 100 guineas.

The Oaks fell, for the second time, to the Earl of Derby, by the aid of his filly Hermione, by Sir Peter Teazle out of Paulina, ridden by S. Arnull. There were thirty-one subscribers; and the field comprised eight fillies, Lord Grosvenor having two in the race.

The following eleven formed the field for the
 1795. Spread Eagle. Derby of this year, which was run on Thursday, May 21st. There were forty-five subscribers.

Sir F. Standish's b. c. Spread Eagle, by Volunteer out of Eagle's dam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lord Egremont's b. c. Caustic, brother to Precipitate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sir F. Poole's br. c. Pelter, by Fortunio out of Macaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mr. Dawson's b. c. Diamond, by Highflyer out of Screveton's dam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Lord Grosvenor's b. c. Yorkshire Bite, by Pot-8-os out of Sting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5

Also ran: Lord Egremont's b. c., by Mercury, dam by Highflyer; Duke of Bedford's br. c. Brass, brother to Hermione, by Sir Peter; Mr. Durand's br. c. by Saltram out of Pyramons, dam by Eclipse; Mr. Hallet's ch. c. Volunteer, dam by Herod; Mr. O'Kelly's br. c. by Volunteer, dam by Evergreen; Mr. Turner's b. c. Miller, by Volunteer out of Maid of the Mill. Betting: 5 to 2 against Spread Eagle, 5 to 2 against Lord Egremont's colt (dam by Highflyer), 3 to 1 against Yorkshire Bite, 9 to 1 against Pelter. A. Wheatly rode the winner, and the value of the prize would be 1,400 guineas.

Lord Egremont's Platina, sister to Silver, won the Oaks. The filly was ridden by Fitzpatrick, who had twice before proved the successful jockey of the ladies' race. Lord Grosvenor's Ariadne ran second. There were forty-two subscribers and eleven runners, but only the above two were placed. The winner and another filly of Lord Egremont's were quoted in the betting at 3 to 1 against them.

The race for the Derby Stakes (the seventeenth) was run on Thursday, May 12th, and was again won by Sir F. Standish, the victorious horse being
 1796. Didelot. ridden by J. Arnall, the value of the stakes being 1,400 guineas. Out of forty-five nominated for the race, eleven ran.

Sir F. Standish's b. c. Didelot, by Trumpator out of Spread	
Eagle's dam (Buckle)	- - - - - 1
Mr. Hallett's b. c. Stickler, brother to Diamond, by Highflyer	2
Duke of Bedford's b. c. Leviathan, by Highflyer	- - - 3

The following also formed part of the field: Mr. Smith's b. c. Little Devil, by Dungannon; Duke of Queensberry's ch. c. by King Fergus, dam by Sweetbriar; Mr. Bullock's ch. c. Hanger, by Javelin; Lord Egremont's b. c. Rubinelli, by Mercury out of Roseberry; Sir H. V. Tempest's ch. c. by Volunteer out of Hip; Sir F. Standish's b. c. Mr. Teazle, by Sir Peter out of Horatia; Mr. Bullock's b. c. Arthur, by Buzaglo; Mr. Lade's b. c. Oatlands, by Dungannon out of Letitia. Betting: 10 to 8 against Mr. Teazle, 9 to 2 against Leviathan, 7 to 1 against Stickler. The above appears to have been the last appearance of the Duke of Queensberry on the Derby stage. Many sketches of this eccentric nobleman's career on the turf have been written, and the peccadilloes of 'Old Q,' as he was called, have more than once been painted with a vigorous brush. Very harsh things were said of him, most of them probably being undeserved.

Parasote, by Sir Peter out of Deceit, the property of Sir F. Standish, starting at odds of 7 to 2 against, was the winner of this year's Oaks, for which there were twelve starters. Parisot was ridden by J. Arnall. Mr. Harris's Miss Whip, by Volunteer, was second, Mr. Phillip's Outcast, by Pot-8-os, being third. There were forty-two subscribers, and Frisky, who, however, ran out of the course, started favourite.

Sir F. Standish's br. c. Stamford, by Sir Peter out

of Horatia, started favourite for this year's Derby, but could get no nearer than fourth, being in the middle of the field with three in front and three behind him, the race being won by the Duke of Bedford's br. c. by Fidget out of Sister to Pharamond, by Hightflyer. The number of starters out of an entry of thirty-seven was only seven, and all of them were placed. The winner started at 10 to 1. The race was run on Thursday, June 1st. The following horses composed the field, and J. Singleton rode the winner :

Duke of Bedford's br. c. by Fidget out of Sister to Pharamond	1
Lord Grosvenor's ch. c. Esculus, by Meteor out of Maid of the Oaks	2
Lord Darlington's b. c. Plaistow, by Alexander	3
Sir F. Standish's b. c. Stamford, by Sir Peter out of Horatia	4
Sir C. Bunbury's br. c. Wrangler, by Diomed out of Fleacatcher	5
Lord Egremont's ch. c. Cameleon, by Wookpecker	6
Lord Egremont's ch. c. Young Woodpecker, by Woodpecker or Precipitate	7

Betting: 11 to 8 against Stamford, 2 to 1 against Plaistow, 10 to 1 against the Duke of Bedford's colt, 20 to 1 against Esculus. Value of the stakes, 1,100 guineas.

F. Buckle, destined to be famous as the rider of nine winners of the Oaks, rode Niké, who this year secured for Lord Grosvenor 'the Garter of the Turf,' being his lordship's fourth victory. Sir F. Poole was second with Mother Shipton; Mr. Broadhurst's Rose, by Young Eclipse, being third. There were thirty-one nominations, and five runners. Niké started at odds of 15 to 8 against her.

The nineteenth Derby was won by a son of Sir

Peter Teazle—Sir Harry—ridden by S. Arnall. The
^{1798.} race took place on Thursday, May 24th,
 Sir Harry. when out of the thirty-seven colts nomi-
 nated, ten were seen at the starting-post. The follow-
 ing three were placed by the judge :

Mr. Cookson's b. c. Sir Harry, by Sir Peter out of Matron	- 1
Mr. Baldock's br. c. Telegraph, by Sir Peter out of Fame	- 2
Mr. Delme's b. c. Young Spear, by Javelin out of Juliana	- 3

The other runners were: Lord Egremont's ch. c. Bobtail, by Precipitate; Lord Grosvenor's br. c. Admiral Nelson, by John Bull; Lord Grosvenor's b. c. Worthy, brother to Waxy, by Pot-8-os; Lord Clarendon's b. c. Brother to Recruit, by Volunteer; Mr. Durrand's b. c. Sheet Anchor, by Noble; Mr. Concannon's ch. c. Sparrow-Hawk, by Falcon; Mr. Perren's b. c. Young Javelin, by Javelin. Betting: 6 and 7 to 4 against Sir Harry, 3 to 1 against Bobtail, 6 to 1 against Admiral Nelson, 8 to 1 against Young Spear, 100 to 3 against Telegraph. The value of the subscriptions was represented by a sum of 1,175 guineas.

F. Buckle was again the fortunate jockey who won the Oaks of 1798, on Mr. Durrand's b. Bellissima, by Phenomenon out of Wren, by Woodpecker, Sir F. Poole's ch. Duchess of Limbs, by Pot-8-os, being second. Lady Bull, by John Bull out of Isabella, nominated by Lord Grosvenor, came in third.

The Derby of this year was run on Thursday, May 9th, and was won by Archduke, who beat Eagle,
^{1799.} belonging to the same owner, and which
 Archduke. started first favourite, and the other nine colts (the field numbered eleven, there being thirty-

three horses nominated) which opposed him. Four were placed by the judge :

Sir F. Standish's br. c. Archduke, by Sir Peter out of Horatia	1
Lord Egremont's b. c. Gislebert, by Precipitate	- - - 2
Sir F. Standish's b. c. Eagle, brother to Spread Eagle	- - - 3
Mr. R. Heathcote's b. c. Vivaldi, by Woodpecker, dam by Mercury	- - - - - 4

Also ran : Mr. Cookson's b. c. Expectation, by Sir Peter out of Zilia ; Mr. Wilson's b. c. Kite, by Buzzard out of Calash ; Duke of Grafton's ch. c. Vandal, by Skyscraper ; Lord Grosvenor's ch. c. Canterbury, by Pot-8-os out of Shipton's Sister ; Mr. Waller's ch. c. by Satellite out of Isabella, by Shark ; Mr. Phillips' ch. c. Dart, by Spear, dam by Conductor ; Mr. Lake's b. c. Gouty, by Sir Peter out of the Yellow Mare. Betting : Evens on Eagle, 7 to 2 against Canterbury, 8 to 1 against Vivaldi, 10 to 1 against Kite, 12 to 1 against Archduke, 17 to 1 against Gislebert. The amount raced for this year was 1,100 guineas, and the jockey who had the mount on Archduke was J. Arnull. Archduke was the third and last winner of the Derby owned by Sir F. Standish, who had the further good fortune of twice being hailed as winner of the Oaks ; namely, in 1786, with Perdita filly, and again in 1796, with Parasote.

On Friday, May 10th, 1799, the Oaks was won by Lord Grosvenor's Bellina (F. Buckle having again the good fortune to ride the winner), who was followed to the winning-post by Lady Jane, St. Ann, and Polly Baker. There were twenty-four nominations, and as has been shown, twenty of the fillies did not run. The following was the betting on the race : 11 to 8 against

St. Ann, 11 to 4 against Bellina, 4 to 1 against Lady Jane.

The following were the first three horses in the
 1800. Derby of 1800, for which there were
 Champion. thirty - three subscribers and thirteen
 runners :

Mr. Wilson's b. c. Champion, by Pot-8-os out of Huncamunca 1
 Lord Egremont's ch. c. Tag, by Precipitate out of Tag - 2
 Lord Egremont's ch. c. Mystery, by Woodpecker out of Platina 3

The other ten starters were : Lord Grosvenor's b. c. Quick ; Lord Donegal's br. c. Fortitude ; Sir H. T. Vane's br. c. Glenarm ; Mr. Ladbroke's ch. c. Lazarus ; Duke of Grafton's b. c. Chuckle ; Mr. Heming's ch. c. Sir Sidney ; Mr. Wilson's b. c. Surprise ; Mr. Watson's b. c. Triumvir ; Mr. White's ch. c. Statesman (afterwards named Sacripant) ; Mr. Panurwell's ch. c. by Rockingham. The winning horse was ridden by Clift ; and ridden by Buckle, Champion also won the St. Leger, for which a field of ten runners came to the post. For the Derby the winner was favourite at 13 to 8, 7 to 2 was the starting price of Tag, 11 to 2 was quoted against Lazarus, 10 to 1 against Glenarm, and 'high odds against any other.' The value of the stakes amounted to 1,150 guineas.

Lord Egremont, who ran two of his horses for the Derby, was this year compensated for his want of success in that race by a victory in the Oaks, his filly Ephemera, afterwards known as Rushlight, having beaten the seven competitors which tried for honours in the ladies' race. The winner was ridden by Fitzpatrick.

The Derby of this year will always be memorable on account of the winner having also won the Oaks—the first time of the double event being accomplished. Fillies this year, it may be stated, carried only 7 st. 12 lb. Sir Charles Bunbury, the owner of Diomed, winner of the first Derby, was also the fortunate possessor of Eleanor, who took the double event. There were thirty-one subscriptions taken out for Eleanor's Derby, and of the horses entered eleven came to the post, all of which were apparently placed by the judge.

Sir C. Bunbury's filly Eleanor, by Whiskey out of Young Giantess	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. Wyndham's br. c., by Fidget out of Cælia	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Duke of Grafton's ch. f. Remuant, by Trumpator	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

The other runners were Mr. Watson's b. c. Gaoler; Lord Grosvenor's ch. c. Matthew, afterwards Columbus; Sir W. Gerard's b. c. Bellisle, afterwards Cheshire Cheese; Lord Derby's gr. c. by Sir Peter out of Bab; Lord Clermont's b. c. Brother to Young Spear; Lord Donegal's b. c. Curb; Mr. Heming's ch. c. Pugilist; Mr. Hoomes' ch. c. Horns. The betting was as follows: 11 to 8 against Eleanor, 7 to 2 against Gaoler, 6 to 1 against Remnant, 10 to 1 against Brother to Young Spear, and 12 to 1 against Bellisle. Value of the stakes, 1,050 guineas.

Saunders rode the mare in both races. The field in the Oaks embraced six runners, including the winner Eleanor, Lord Grosvenor's Tulip being second, and Lord Egremont's Crazy Poetess third.

We begin now to find occasional notes given by the

turf writers of 'those days,' as to 'how the Derby was won'—in other words, descriptions of the race have been written and are extant; in the present instance, however, the description is very brief, although the verdict is emphatic enough, consisting only of two words: these are 'won easy.' The whole of the starters, nine in all, seem to have been placed by the judge. The first three were:

1802.	Duke of Grafton's b. c. Tyrant, by Pot-8-os out of Seafowl	- 1
Tyrant.	Mr. Wilson's b. c. Young Eclipse, by Young Eclipse out of Tekeli's dam, by Highflyer	- - - - - 2
	Sir Charles Bunbury's b. c. Orlando, by Whiskey out of Amelia	3

There also ran: Mr. Whaley's Gulliver, Sir F. Standish's Duxbury, Lord Clermont's Piscator, Sir F. Standish's Master Eagle, Lord Grosvenor's ch. filly Margery, Lord Cameford's Omnium. There were thirty subscribers in Tyrant's year, and the winner was again the mount of Buckle. Young Eclipse started favourite at 11 to 8 against; the price of Piscator was 4 to 1, Orlando 10 to 1, 'and very high odds against any other.' Tyrant's price at the post was 7 to 1. The stakes amounted to 976 guineas.

On the Oaks of 1802, which was won by Mr. Wastell's Sophia, it is recorded that 'there was more betting on this race than the Derby,' and it is described as having been a 'very good race amongst the first three.' Buckle, the great jockey of that day, also rode the winner of the Oaks.

Out of the thirty-five horses entered for this year's Derby (value of the stakes, 885 guineas) only six came to the post, of which the following is a complete list, Clift riding the winner.

Sir H. Williamson's b. c. Ditto, brother to Walton, by Sir Peter out of Arethusa	- - - - -	1
Lord Grey's b. c. Sir Oliver, by Sir Peter out of Fauny, by Diomed	- - - - -	2
Sir F. Standish's b. c. Brother to Stamford, by Sir Peter	-	3
Hon. G. Watson's c. Dreadnought, by Buzzard out of Sister to Doctor	- - - - -	4
Sir H. T. Vane's b. c. Discussion, by Patriot out of Co-heiress	5	
Colonel Kingscote's ch. c. Wheatear, by Young Woodpecker	6	

As will doubtless be observed, the first three are all by Sir Peter. Brother to Stamford was made favourite at 7 to 4: the winner, Ditto, started at 7 to 2. 'Won very easy,' which may be termed a short and sweet description of the race. The weights carried by Derby competitors were now fixed as follows: colts 8 st. 5 lb., fillies 8 st.

The Oaks of the same year, which was won by Sir T. Gascoigne's Theophania, is said to have been 'a very fine race, and won by half a neck.'

'Won very easy' was this year again the verdict, when Hannibal, the property of Lord Egremont, on ^{1804.} Thursday, May 17th, and ridden by W. Hannibal. Arnold, was declared the victor, beating seven competitors, all that came to the post of the thirty-three subscribers. The following were the first three:

Lord Egremont's b. c. Hannibal, by Driver out of Fractionous, by Mercury	- - - - -	1
Mr. Wilson's b. c. Pavilion, by Waxy out of Totterella	-	2
Mr. Dawson's b. c. Hippocampus, by Coriander out of Miss Green	- - - - -	3

The other five competitors were Lord Darlington's ch. c. Zodiac, Mr. Lake's b. c. Lynceus, Sir F. Poole's b. c. Sir Walter Raleigh, Mr. Warrington's two colts, one

being Woodcot, by Guilford, the other being unnamed, but also by Guilford, dam by Highflyer out of Eyebright. The names of the jockeys who had the mounts on the second and third horses respectively (W. Clift and D. Fitzpatrick) are this year given in the records of the race. The starting prices were as follows: 100 to 43 against Pavilion, 5 to 2 and 3 to 1 against Hannibal, 7 to 2 and 3 to 1 against Zodiac, 9 to 2 against Hippocampus; 'much betting between Hannibal and Zodiac.' Value of the stakes, £1,025.

The winner of this year's Oaks was the Duke of Grafton's br. f. Pelisse, which, ridden by W. Clift, 'won easy.'

The race was in 1805 contested by the excellent field of fifteen runners, the number of subscribers being set down as thirty-nine. The winner proved to be Lord Egremont's b. c. Cardinal Beaufort, by Gohanna out of Colibri, ridden by D. Fitzpatrick; Lord Grosvenor supplied the second and third horses—Plantagenet, by John Bull, and Goth, by Sir Peter. Mr. Bigg's Bassanio was placed fourth, Lord Foley's Little Peter being fifth. The other ten horses which took part in the Derby of 1805 were Lord Egremont's Impostor, General Gower's Swinley, the Prince of Wales' Barbarossa, Mr. Wilson's Newmarket, Mr. Howorth's Honesty, Mr. Glover's Sigismunda; Mr. Jones's Freedom and Junius, Mr. Harris's Farmer, and Mr. Best's colt by Dungannon out of Flirtilla. The Cardinal started at 20 to 1, Impostor and Plantagenet being equal favourites at 2 to 1. There was, we are told,

much betting on the race, which was won by a neck, Fitzpatrick being the successful jockey. Mr. Best's colt, Dungannon, was thrown down by some horsemen imprudently crossing the course before all the race-horses had passed, his rider, B. Norton, being much bruised by the fall. The value of the stakes, 1,250 guineas.

Lord Grosvenor, who ran second and third for the Derby, won the Oaks by the aid of Meteora, who was steered to victory by Buckle, the field numbering eight fillies; the Duke of Grafton being second with Dodona, Sir F. Standish's Sister to Duxbury, by Sir Peter, being third.

The field for each of the great Epsom races this year numbered twelve, there being thirty-nine entries for the Derby and twenty-seven for the Oaks. The successful jockeys were, respectively, J. 1806. Paris. Shepherd in the Derby and W. Edwards in the Oaks. The stakes for the Derby amounted this year to 1,275 guineas. The following three horses ran first, second, and third respectively:

Lord Foley's br. c. Paris, brother to Archduke, by Sir Peter	-	1
Lord Egremont's b. c. Trafalgar (afterwards Harpocrates)	-	2
Margravine of Anspach's gr. c. Hector	-	3

The remainder of the field comprised Mr. Wilson's b. c. Smuggler, Duke of Grafton's b. c. Podagrus, Lord Egremont's b. c. Hedley, Mr. Dixon Boyce's ch. c. Achilles, Sir J. Shelly's br. c. Clasher, Mr. Mellish's b. c. Luck's All, Sir F. Standish's ch. f. by Mr. Teazle, Mr. Batson's b. c. Rupture, Mr. J. Croft's Ploughboy.

The betting at start was 5 to 1 against Paris, Sir Frank Standish's filly being favourite at 4 to 1. Against Trafalgar 6 to 1 was laid, whilst Hector's price was 25 to 1. The following is a description of the race: 'At half-past one they started, and went at a good speed to Tattenham Corner, on turning which it was observed that Shepherd, who rode Paris, rather pulled, whilst Trafalgar was making play; notwithstanding Lord Egremont was backed to win. Upon coming to the distance-post, Trafalgar and Paris ran neck and neck, in which situation they continued till within a few yards of the winning-post, when Shepherd made a desperate push and won the race by about half a head.'

The Oaks of the year was 'won easy' by Mr. B. Craven's br. Bronze, sister to Castrel, who beat Lord Egremont's Jerboa and eleven others. The value of the Derby Stakes this year was 1,275 guineas.

For the race of 1807 there were thirty-eight nominations, and thirteen horses faced the starter on the
 1807. day fixed for the race, which was Thurs-
 Election. day, May 14th. It was described by the chroniclers of the period as 'a very fine race.' Giles Scroggins took the lead, and kept it till he was passed by Coriolanus at the distance-post, who in turn was headed by Election, who in the end won by a length. The winner was the property of Lord Egremont, and was by Gohanna out of Chesnut Skein. The jockey who rode Election was J. Arnold, sen.; Mr. Wilson's Giles Scroggins (afterwards Master Goodall), ridden by W. Clift, was placed second; the third horse, Corio-

lanus, ridden by W. Wheatly, was also by Gohanna. The names of the other competing animals were Corsican, Rosario, Pioneer and Musician (both entered by the Duke of Grafton), Mungo and Lewis (both the property of the Prince of Wales), Job Thornberry, Chaise and One, a b. c. by Sir Peter, belonging to Sir F. Standish, and Lord Darlington, brother to Expectation, also by Sir Peter. The value of the stakes in 1807 would be 1,270 guineas. In the betting at the start, Election started favourite at 3 to 1 against; the betting against the others was as following : 7 to 2 Musician, 4 to 1 Job Thornberry, 9 to 2 Giles Scroggins, 10 to 1 Chaise and One, 'and very high odds against the rest.' Weights now fixed at, colts 8 st. 7 lb., fillies 8 st. 2 lb.

Curiously enough, the field for the Oaks also numbered thirteen, there being thirty-one subscribers. The winner proved to be General Grosvenor's Briseis, by Benningborough out of Lady Jane, the rider being S. Chifney, and the filly started with the liberal odds of 15 to 1 betted against her.

The following four horses were placed by
 1808. Pan. the judge in this year's Derby, namely :

Sir H. Williamson's ch. c. Pan, by St. George out of Arethusa	1
Duke of Grafton's br. c. Vandyke, by Sir Peter out of Dab-	
chick	2
Lord Grosvenor's b. c. Chester, by Sir Peter, dam by Wood-	
pecker	3
Prince of Wales' ch. c. Rubens, brother to Castrel, by Buzzard	4

Other six animals ran in the race, two of the number being Lord Egremont's Scorpion and Brighton Lass, a b. f. by Gohanna. Mr. Sitwell ran Clinker, also by Sir

Peter. The name of Lord Stawell's horse was No Conjuror. Mr. Ladbroke's Tristram also ran, as likewise Mr. Mellish's Bradbury. This Derby is described as having been 'a very great betting race'—Vandyke being elected favourite at the start, at odds of 2 to 1 against it; the Prince of Wales' horse Rubens was second favourite, at 7 to 2; Pan started at the remunerative price of 20 to 1, and was steered to victory by F. Collinson, winning by half a length. This year's contest was allowed to be one of the finest races ever run for the Derby, and Frank Collinson rode in a masterly Yorkshire style. There were thirty-eight subscriptions taken out, and ten horses appeared at the starting-post; the value of the sum contended for was therefore 1,200 guineas.

The Duke of Grafton again won the Oaks, this time with Morel, by Sorcerer out of Hornby Lass, by Buz-zard, W. Clift being the successful jockey. The Duke's filly started favourite, and won by a length and a half.

The subscriptions to the Derby begin now to increase, there being seven more this year than last, namely

1809. forty-five to thirty-eight, the field at the
Pope. start numbering ten horses, six of which
were placed, namely:

Duke of Grafton's b. c. Pope, by Waxy out of Prunella	-	1
Mr. Wilson's ch. c. Wizard, by Sorcerer	-	2
Duke of Rutland's b. c. Salvator	-	3
Sir C. Bunbury's br. c. Fairstar	-	4
Mr. Wyndham's ch. c. Trusty, by Worthy	-	5
Lord Foley's br. c. Osprey, by Eagle	-	6

Also competed: Sir J. Shelly's Robin, Mr. Lake's Break, Lord Lowther's Blue Ruin, Sir J. Mawbey's

br. c. Botleys. The race took place on Thursday, May 18th. Salvator began by taking the lead, which he kept till Tattenham Corner was turned, when Wizard came up and disputed the place; but within a few yards of the winning-post Goodison, who had brought Pope with one run, won the race by a neck, the general verdict being that he rode his horse with much skill and judgment. W. Clift rode Wizard, the second horse, which started favourite at 5 to 4 *on* it; the starting price of Pope, the winner, was 20 to 1; against the third horse 9 to 1 was betted at the start. The value of the stakes would be 1,375 guineas. In this year was run the first race for the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes, a race which was destined to have much influence on the incidence of the Derby. The first winner of the Guineas, it may be noted, was Wizard, which, as has been told, ran second for the 'Blue Ribbon.'

There were thirty-three subscribers to the Oaks, from which there came to the starting-post a field of eleven, victory falling to General Gower's Maid of Orleans, ridden by B. Moss, and starting with odds of 15 to 1 against.

On June 7th the Duke of Grafton was so fortunate as to win the Derby again, it being his third victory; the winning horse was by Waxy, the Derby victor of 1793, and, as in the preceding year, there were forty-five subscribers, eleven of which came to the post, among the lot being Hephestion, the winner of the Two Thousand Guineas. The three horses placed were:

1810.
Whalebone.

The Duke of Grafton's b. c. Whalebone, by Waxy out of Penelope - - - - - 1
 Lord Kinnaird's ch. c. The Dandy, by Gohanna out of Active 2
 Lord G. H. Cavendish's b. c. Eccleston, by Cæsario out of Niké 3

Also ran the following: Lord Grosvenor's Hephæstion, Duke of Grafton's Pledge, Mr. Lake's Breslau, General Gower's Abdiel, Lord Egremont's Interloper, Major Wilson's Erebus, Mr. Howarth's Revoke, and Mr. Thompson's br. c. O.P. Whalebone, ridden by W. Clift, and starting favourite, 'took the lead, was never headed, and won easy.' The value of the stakes may be set down at 1,300 guineas. By this time the Derby had begun to attract public attention, and the horses running and those who owned them came in for a good deal of criticism, and so did the jockeys.

Eleven also came to the starting-post for the Oaks, the winner being Oriana, by Benningborough out of Mary Anne, by Sir Peter. She was the mount of W. Pierse, and started second favourite, with odds of 7 to 2 betted against her. Pirouette, who ran second, was favourite.

The race, for which there were forty-eight subscribers, was run this year on May 30th, and, with Buckle in the saddle, was won by Sir John Shelly's Phantom. colt, who beat fifteen opponents, gaining a victory over the second horse within the very last stride of the winning-post. Only two of the horses seem in 1811 to have been placed by the judge; they were:

Sir John Shelly's b. c. Phantom, by Walton out of Julia, sister to Eleanor - - - - - 1
 Mr. Astley's ch. c. Magic, by Sorcerer out of Elve's dam - 2

The other runners were: Trophonius, winner of the Two Thousand Guineas, Hit or Miss, Mountebank, Wellington, Merry Go Round, Rival, Timour, Nismus, Jolter, Prince Regent, b. c. by Sir Solomon out of Totterella, b. c. by Sorcerer out of Sister to Oatlands, Beresford and Rapid. The Duke of Rutland, Sir F. Standish (2), Sir Charles Bunbury, Lord Darlington (2), and Mr. Payne all had runners in the race. Trophonius, with 3 to 1 betted against it, was favourite at the start, 5 to 1 being offered against the winner. Buckle, who had the mount on Phantom, rode, we are told, in his usual excellent manner. The value of the stakes for this year's Derby must have been 1,600 guineas, the second horse, as for some time had been the practice, receiving 100 guineas out of the stakes.

Lord Derby, Lord Grosvenor, General Gower, Sir F. Standish, Sir J. Shelly, and other gentlemen, ran their fillies in the Oaks of 1811; but it was the Duke of Rutland who supplied the winner, Sorcery, ridden by S. Chifney. There were forty animals nominated, twelve of which ran in the race, the Duke's filly, which was favourite in the betting, winning cleverly.

With one subscriber less than in the preceding
 1812. year, fourteen starters came to the post for
 Octavius. the Derby of 1812. The placed horses
 were :

Mr. Ladbroke's b. c. Octavius, by Orville out of Marianne,	
by Mufti	- 1
Lord Egremont's b. c. Sweep, by Gohanna out of Amazon	- 2
Sir J. Shelly's ch. c. Comus, by Sorcerer out of Houghton Lass	3

The following is a description of the race: Wisdom

The Duke of Rutland ran two of his, namely, Soliman and Rastopchin; Mr. Lake also ran two, Eurus and Aladdin; Lords Suffield, Derby, Darlington and Grosvenor also supplied runners. The placed jockeys were respectively T. Goodison, F. Buckle and W. Wheatly. Smolensko, at evens, started favourite, 7 to 1 against Caterpillar. Buckle made play at once, and kept the lead till within a few lengths of the winning-post, when Smolensko, forging to the front, got home with about half a length to the front.

Music credited the Duke of Grafton with his third Oaks, Goodison being, as in the Derby, the successful jockey.

Of the fifty-one horses entered for this year's race, fourteen came to the starting-post on the 26th of May —a Thursday—and victory fell to the share
 1814. — of Lord Stawell by the aid of his b. c.
 Blucher. of Lord Stawell by the aid of his b. c. Blucher, which was ridden by W. Arnold. The winner was by Waxy (who in 1793 credited Sir F. Poole with the Derby of that year) out of Pantina, by Buzzard, grand-dam by Trentham out of Cytherea. The only other horse which appears to have been placed was Mr. Prince's ch. c. Perchance, by Haphazard out of Miss Holt, by Buzzard, on which Clift had the mount. Other two Waxy colts took part in the Derby of the year; namely, the Duke of Rutland's Kutusoff and the Duke of Grafton's Jeweller. Lord Egremont and Lord F. Bentinck also supplied competitors, whilst Mr. Lake ran two of his colts. Blucher was favourite at the start at 5 to 2 and 3 to 1. During the running of the race it looked as if Perchance could not possibly

be beaten, and it was at the last moment that Blucher headed Mr. Princee's colt and was awarded the victory. The race now began to be of considerable account, the value of the stakes this year being 1,625 guineas, 100 guineas being paid to the owner of the second horse.

The Oaks was won by the Duke of Rutland's ch. f. Medora, by Selim, dam by Sir Harry, the rider being S. Barnard. There were forty-four entries, and of the nine fillies which faced the starter, the Duke of Grafton supplied the second and third in Vestal, by Walton out of Dabchick, and Wire, a sister to Whalebone, by Waxy, which, with Goodison on her back, started favourite at about 5 to 2.

The Oaks was run on the Fridays. The fillies' race for the One Thousand Guineas was instituted this year, and was destined to have considerable influence on the contest for the Oaks in the same way as the Two Thousand has a bearing on the Derby.

The number of horses nominated was again fifty-one, thirteen of which came to the
 1815. Whisker. starting-post, General Gower's Raphael being made favourite. Only two of the competitors were distinguished by the notice of the judge; these were :

The Duke of Grafton's b. c. Whisker, by Waxy out of Penelope 1
 General Gower's b. c. Raphael, by Rubens out of Iris - - 2

These colts were respectively ridden by T. Goodison and John Jackson. General Gower supplied another runner in his br. c. Busto, by Clinker. Lord Foley,

Lord Rous, and Mr. Payne also had colts in the race; Mr. Lake had two competitors running; Mr. Stonehewer, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Andrews, Mr. S. Duncombe, and Sir B. R. Graham's colts helped to swell the field. The story of the race is easy to tell. Busto started well, and made severe play, keeping the lead from Tattenham Corner to within two hundred yards of the ending-post, when Raphael passed him, but in the last two or three strides Whisker came up and won by about half a head. 'Busto, although not placed, was not beat for second place by more than a neck, so that General Gower's horses ran second and third,' the best race ever remembered to have been run by the first three for the Derby, the others being beat a long way. Busto was ridden by W. Pierse, and was sold to Mr. Blake for a very large sum. Jackson, in consequence of the crowd at the winning-post pressing on his horse, was thrown, but was not much hurt. The betting at the start was 3 to 1 and 7 to 2 against Raphael, and 8 to 1 against Whisker; Mr. Wyndham's Frolic was second favourite at 7 to 2 against. Value of the stakes, 1,600 guineas.

The Duke of Grafton was also fortunate enough to win the Oaks with Minuet, by Waxy out of Woodbine, Goodison being the rider; the same nobleman also ran Discord. The winner of the One Thousand, Lord Foley's br. f. by Selim, started second favourite, but having fallen opposite the distance-post and dislocated her shoulder, it was found necessary to destroy her on the course.

At this Derby, run on May 30th, we are told 'the

number of people present was greater than ever before remembered.' Eleven of the fifty-one ^{1816.} Prince Leopold. horses nominated came to the post, the placings by the judge being as follows :

Duke of York's br. c. Prince Leopold, by Hedley out of Gramarie - - - - -	1
Lord G. H. Cavendish's br. c. Nectar, by Walton out of L'Huile de Venus - - - - -	2
Lord Stawell's ch. c. Pandour, by Walton out of Pontina - - -	3

The respective jockeys of the first three were W. Wheatly, F. Buckle, and W. Arnold. The Duke of Grafton and Lord Foley each started a colt; Mr. Blake ran two of his horses; Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Terrett, Mr. S. Duncombe, and Mr. T. Scaith also supplied competitors to the field. At the start 100 to 60 was laid against Nectar, who, being winner of the Two Thousand, had been made favourite, and ran well in a hotly-contested race, which was in the end won by Prince Leopold by half a length. The Duke of York backed his horse freely, and landed a few thousands by his victory. The value of the stakes would be in all 1,575 guineas.

The Oaks, run on Friday, May 31st, was also contested by a field of eleven runners, General Gower's Landscape, ridden by S. Chifney, being placed first by the judge, Lord Foley running second with Duenna. The winner started favourite with odds of 2 to 1 offered against her. Forty-eight subscriptions were taken out to this year's Oaks. Rhoda, the property of the Duke of Rutland, and winner of the One Thousand, ran unplaced.

Fifty-six horses were entered for the great race of

1817, which was contested on May 22nd by a field of
 1817. thirteen horses, only two of the number,
 Azor. however, being placed by the judge.
 These were :

Mr. Payne's ch. c. Azor, by Selim out of Zoraida, by Don
 Quixote - - - - - 1
 Mr. Wilson's ch. c. Young Wizard, by Wizard, dam by Sir Peter 2

J. Robinson had the mount on Azor, who beat Young Wizard by half a length. The Student started favourite with 7 to 4 against him; Azor started at 50 to 1. The Student was nominated by Mr. Udny. Mr. Lake had three horses in the race; the Duke of Rutland, Lord Darlington, and Lord Stawell supplied each a colt, as did also Mr. Hallett, Mr. Stephenson, and Mr. Vansittart. The race was somewhat remarkable for the easy way in which the favourite was beat. Value of the stakes, 1,725 guineas.

Mr. Watson's Neva started first favourite for the Oaks at evens, and won 'easy,' beating ten opponents, F. Buckle being the successful horseman. Neva had previously won the race for the One Thousand Guineas, beating nine opponents.

Sir J. Shelly's Prince Paul was made favourite for the thirty-ninth Derby, run on May 28th, but the
 1818. race fell to the second favourite. The
 Sam. following are the three named by the judge as being first, second, and third respectively :

Mr. Thornhill's ch. c. Sam, by Scud out of Hyale - - - 1
 Lord Darlington's gr. c. Raby, by Sorcerer out of Grey
 Middleham's dam - - - - - 2
 Sir J. Shelly's b. c. Prince Paul, brother to Crecy - - - 3

S. Chifney was on Sam, whilst W. Pierse rode Raby, Edwards having the guidance of Prince Paul. Other noblemen and gentlemen who ran horses were the Dukes of Grafton and Rutland, Lord Stawell, Mr. Payne, Mr. Blake, Mr. Lake, etc. It was unfortunate for Sir John Shelly that there were so many false starts for this Derby—no less than ten—in five of which Prince Paul took the lead, but by being pulled up so often the colt became fretful and lost his temper and—the race. Chifney, the jockey, is reputed this year to have ‘shown a masterpiece of horsemanship,’ and won by three-parts of a length. The winner was foaled on May 28th, 1815, and won the Derby on the day he was three years of age. At the start Prince Paul was favourite in the betting at 2 to 1; Sam was quoted at double those odds. There were fifty-six subscribers to Sam’s Derby, and sixteen horses started for the race. The value of the stakes would be 1,800 guineas.

F. Buckle won the Oaks on Mr. Udny’s Corinne, by Waxy out of Briseis (winner of the One Thousand), beating nine competitors. Fanny, the property of Mr. Jones, was favourite, but only got third; 5 to 2 was betted against Corinne.

Of the fifty-four horses nominated, sixteen came to the starting-post. Only two of the competing colts were distinguished by the judge. These
1819.
Tiresias. were the Duke of Portland’s br. c. Tiresias, by Soothsayer out of Pledge, by Waxy, placed first, and Mr. Crockford’s b. c. Sultan, which was assigned second honours. Tiresias, ridden by W. Clift, took

the lead, and, despite the challenges of Euphrates and Truth, was brought home a winner, beating Sultan, who made an effort in the last hundred yards, by 'half a neck.' Mr. Crockford also ran Emperor. Lords Foley, G. H. Cavendish, and Rous had horses in the race; also Mr. Payne and Mr. Lake. The odds against Tiresias, who was favourite at the start, were 2 to 1. Value of the stakes, 1,750 guineas.

In 1819 there were thirty-nine subscribers to the Oaks, and ten fillies came to the post. Evadne, the property of Mr. Watson, was made favourite in the betting, but the winner turned up in Mr. Thornhill's Shoveller, by Scud out of Gosseander, which, ridden by Chifney with great skill, only beat Lord G. H. Cavendish's Espagnolle by 'little more than a head.' F. Buckle was entrusted with the guidance of the second horse. Catgut, the Duke of Grafton's filly, winner of the One Thousand Guineas, starting at 12 to 1, was not placed.

Mr. Thornhill's ch. c. Sailor, by Scud out of Gosseander, by Hambletonian, ridden by S. Chifney, was
 1820. the winner of this year's Derby. F. Buckle
 Sailor. was entrusted with the handling of Mr. Udny's Abjer, which had to put up with second honours. Lord G. H. Cavendish had third place awarded to him by the aid of Tiger. The Duke of Grafton's Pindarrie, on the strength of his victory in the Two Thousand Guineas, was elected favourite, the odds of 3 to 1 being offered against him. The race is described in one account of it as having been won by two lengths. The Duke of Rutland supplied a runner

in The Main, Lord Warwick his filly Selina; Lord Stawell's Anti-Gallican, by Waxy, as also Lord Jersey's c. by Waxy out of Defiance, took part in the race. Lord Rous ran Hoopoe; Messrs. Pierse, Wilson, Milner, Payne, Fox, and Lake likewise supplied runners. The odds offered against Sailor were at the rate of 4 to 1. 'There was some even betting between Pindarrie and Sailor a short time before starting.'

The Duke of Grafton's Rowena, winner of the One Thousand Guineas, was made favourite for this year's Oaks, but the race was won by Lord Egremont's Caroline, steered to victory by Edwards; Lord Grosvenor's Bombazine was third, the favourite being awarded second place. 'Won by a length.' There were thirty-nine subscribers.

'The race (run on Thursday, June 7th) was between Gustavus and Reginald; the latter made the play to the distance-post, where Gustavus took the lead, and won by about half a length.' Such is a brief narrative of the contest for the Derby of 1821, for which fifty-four horses were nominated, of which thirteen were placed under the starter's charge. The placed horses may be named here in full :

Mr. Hunter's gr. c. Gustavus, by Election out of Lady Grey	1
Duke of Grafton's b. c. Reginald, by Haphazard out of Prudence	2
Mr. Ramsbottom's br. c. Sir Hildebrand, by Octavius out of Truth's dam	3

S. Day rode the winner, F. Buckle being on the second horse. Gustavus was favourite in the betting, 2 to 1 being offered against it at the fall of the flag; Reginald, despite his victory in the Two Thousand,

was only second favourite at 4 to 1. The Duke of York ran a b. c. by Walton; the Duke of Rutland's ch. f. Mandoline, by Waxy, also ran in the race; Lords Jersey and Exeter likewise supplied runners, as did Mr. Fox, Mr. Duncombe, Mr. Batson and other sportsmen. Value of the stakes, 1,675 guineas.

All the runners in this year's contest for the Oaks seem to have been placed by the judge, but the winner of the One Thousand, the Duke of Grafton's br. f., Zeal, only got fourth—the winner being found in Lord Exeter's Augusta, which, ridden by J. Robinson, started favourite with odds of 20 to 11 betted against her; she made all the running and won very easy, being in front from start to finish of the race.

Run on May 23rd, this year's race has been described as one of the best which ever took place for the
 1822. Derby Stakes. The winner was the pro-
 Moses. perty of the Duke of York, who had six years previously won with Prince Leopold. The three placed horses were:

The Duke of York's b. c. Moses, by Whalebone or Seymour				
out of Sister to Castanea, by Gohanna	-	-	-	1
Mr. Rogers' b. c. Figaro, by Haphazard, dam by Selim	-	-	-	2
Duke of Grafton's ch. c. Hampden, by Rubens	-	-	-	3

Goodison rode the winner, the odds against him at the start being 11 to 2, 3 to 1 being offered against Hampden, which had been elected favourite. Lords Darlington, Exeter, and Egremont supplied runners, of which there were twelve in all, selected from the fifty-three nominated. The Duke of York's colt led the field nearly the whole of the way, and in the

end won by a head. Value of the stakes, 1,625 guineas.

The race for the Oaks was won by the Duke of Grafton's b. f. Pastille, by Rubens, who had previously won the Two Thousand Guineas, F. Buckle being the jockey, beating three other fillies of the same sire—'an uncommonly fine race,' won by a head, Major Wilson's ch. f. by Rubens being second, and Sister to Neva third. The odds were 11 to 8 against the Duke of Grafton's Whizgig, which had been elected favourite; Pastille's price was 7 to 2.

Although sixty horses had been nominated for this year's Derby, only eleven of the number appeared at the starting-post on Thursday, May 29th.

1823.
Emilius. Two of the number were placed by the judge; those were:

Mr. Udny's b. c. Emilius, by Orville out of Emily	-	-	1
Mr. Rogers' b. c. Tancred, brother to Pacha	-	-	2

Mr. Rogers also ran Nicolo, the winner of the Two Thousand Guineas—this horse was a twin, and was brother to Langar, by Selim. The Duke of Grafton ran two of his colts. F. Buckle and W. Wheatly were the placed jockeys. Emilius and Tancred started equal favourites, the price being 7 to 4 against either. The race has been briefly described in the following fashion: 'Emilius took the lead until he came to Tattenham Corner, when he was headed by Tancred; Emilius, however, soon defeated him and won by a length in fine style.' The value of the stakes amounted to 1,775 guineas.

By the success of his brown filly, Zinc, the Duke of Grafton won this year his sixth Oaks. Buckle was the rider, and defeated nine runners, winning by three lengths. The Duke's filly had previously won the One Thousand Guineas.

Seventeen of the fifty-eight horses nominated for the race of June 3rd came to the starting-post—Cedric, the winner, being ridden by J. Robinson. The first and second horses only were placed, namely :

1824.	Sir J. Shelly's ch. c. Cedric, by Phantom out of Sister to Parrot	1
Cedric.	Sir W. M. Milner's br. c. Osmond, by Filho da Puta out of	
	Banshee - - - - -	2

Other noblemen and gentlemen who supplied runners were the Duke of Grafton, Lord Stradbroke (2), Lord Egremont and Lord G. H. Cavendish, General Grosvenor, Mr. Udney, Mr. Forth, Mr. Houldsworth, Mr. Greville, Mr. Batson, etc. Mr. Thornhill's ch. c. Reform started favourite with odds of 5 to 2 being offered against him; 4 to 1 was the price laid against the winner. Osmond, described as being 'amiss,' ran well, especially in three false starts which took place, but in the race, at the fourth time of asking, he did not get well away—Cedric, when it came to real business, taking the lead, keeping in front and winning easy. Value of the race, 1,875 guineas.

Lord Jersey's filly, Cobweb, by Phantom out of Fillagree, winner of the One Thousand, also proved victorious in the Oaks. She was ridden in both races by J. Robinson, who had twelve opponents, and beat

Colonel Yates' Fille de Joie by a length. Betting: 6 to 4 on Cobweb.

J. Robinson, W. Arnold, and S. Chifney were the riders of the three placed horses in the Derby of 1825, which was run on May 19th. There were fifty-eight subscribers to the race, and eighteen horses came to the starting-post; the largest field that had yet assembled to run for the 'Blue Ribbon of the Turf.' The following is a list of the three—all chestnut colts—placed by the judge:

Lord Jersey's ch. c. Middleton, by Phantom out of Web, by Waxy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Duke of Grafton's ch. c. Rufus, by Election out of Prudence, by Waxy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. Batson's ch. c. Hogarth, by Rubens out of Pranks, by Hyperion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

The Duke of York and Lord Oxford also had runners in the race, as had also several of the prominent sportsmen of the period, such as Mr. Udny, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Heathcote, Mr. Rogers, and Mr. Milner. The race is reputed to have been won cleverly by two lengths, Robinson making a rush about fifty yards from the winning-post; Mr. Benson's Dauntless, by Whalebone, came in fourth. The betting at the start indicated the result, the odds offered being 7 to 4 against Middleton and 2 to 1 against Rufus. The stakes this year amounted to 1,900 guineas, the largest sum that had yet accrued.

The Oaks of the year was won by a neck (owing to the superior skill of Chifney) by Wings, a chestnut filly belonging to General Grosvenor. Mr. F. Craven's

Pastime was placed second in a field of ten, and the Duke of Grafton's Tontine, the winner of the One Thousand Guineas, was only the recipient of third honours. General Grosvenor also ran the Brownie; the Dukes of York and Rutland had also runners in the race. There were fifty subscribers to the Oaks of 1825.

Nineteen (one more than in the preceding year) out of the fifty-seven horses nominated for the race came to the starting-post, only two of ^{1826.} the number, however, being placed by the judge—namely:

Lord Egremont's b. c. Lapdog, brother to Twatty, by Whalebone (ridden by G. Dockeray)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. West's br. c. Shakespeare, by Smolensko out of Charming Molly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

His Grace the Duke of Grafton ran two of his horses—namely, Dervise, winner of the Two Thousand, and Dollar; Lord Exeter was also doubly represented in the race, his horses being Tirailleur and Hobgoblin. The other runners were the property of gentlemen whose names have been given as running horses in some of the preceding races. On May 25th, the day of the race, there fell an incessant downpour of rain, which threw a damper on the proceedings. At the starting-post 30 to 1 was offered against the winner, but the race was won cleverly enough by a length. Mr. Forth's Premier started favourite at 3 to 1 offered against it. Value of the stakes, 1,800 sovereigns—the entry-money having been changed this year from guineas to pounds.

The Duke of Grafton's Problem, winner of the One Thousand, started a pretty hot favourite (5 to 4 against) for the Oaks, but only obtained second place to Mr. Forth's Lilius (afterwards Babel), ridden by T. Lye, who rode a fine race and won by a length. There were forty-nine subscribers, and fifteen of their fillies came to the starting-post.

An increase of thirty-two over the number of last year brings the subscribers for the race of 1827 up to eighty-nine, at which it remains, as Mameluke. will be seen by-and-by, for the three succeeding years. Twenty-three of the number were seen at the starting-post, and the race resulted as follows :

Lord Jersey's b. c. Mameluke, by Partisan out of Miss Sophia	1
Lord Jersey's b. c. Glenartney, brother to Middleton, by Phantom	2

No third was given. J. Robinson had the mount on the winner, H. Edwards being on the second horse. Several of the sportsmen of the period, in addition to Lord Jersey, were doubly represented, thus the Duke of Grafton ran Turcoman, winner of the Two Thousand, and Roderick, whilst Lord Egremont was represented by Gaberlunzie and Grampus. Mr. Yates also ran a couple, as did Mr. Haffenden, Mr. Payne, and Mr. Forth. Other competitors were supplied by Lord Exeter, Mr. Berkeley, Captain Locke, Mr. L. Charlton, and Mr. Sadler. Odds of 9 to 1 were offered against Mameluke at the start, Glenartney being favourite at 5 to 1. Mameluke won easily by two lengths. Value of the stakes, 2,800 sovereigns.

The Oaks of this year also shows increased numbers, there being seventy-nine entries for the race, and a capital field of nineteen starters. The Duke of Richmond's Gulnare, by Smolensko out of Medora, by Selim, ridden by F. Boyce, won by half a length, starting with odds of 14 to 1 against her. The value of the Oaks Stakes this year would be 2,450 sovereigns; the owner of the second horse was paid a hundred sovereigns.

A memorable Derby year, resulting, first of all, in a dead-heat, and then in the victory of Cadland, The
1828. Colonel having to put up with second
Cadland. honours. The competing jockeys were J. Robinson and W. Scott. None, other than the two animals named, had any chance, and they finished 'a most beautiful race,' so close together that they could not be separated. Out of the eighty-nine horses nominated, fifteen faced the starter. One of the number fell, his rider being much injured. The Colonel and Cadland started nearly equal favourites in the betting; the latter, as winner of the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes, had a strong following. 'The sensation caused by the unlooked-for event of a dead-heat for the Derby,' says a commentator on the race, 'did not subside for some time. It being decided that the second heat should be run after the race for the Durdans Stakes, betting began anew between The Colonel and Cadland, the former having the call at 6 to 5. Cadland again set off at good sound running, being well looked after by The Colonel, and so they went to the chains, where the latter made

play and got up. A desperate contest followed, and lasted to the last few yards, when Cadland won by half a length.' The following was the result :

Duke of Rutland's br. c. Cadland, by Andrew out of Sorcery 1
 Mr. Petre's ch. c. The Colonel, by Whisker out of Sister to
 Miss Newton - - - - - 2

No third horse was placed by the judge. The Duke of Grafton ran two colts in this year's race. Mr. W. Chifney's Zingaree also started; and Lord Grosvenor and General Grosvenor also supplied starters, as did also Messrs. Payne, Holdsworth, Benson, and Thornhill; and 'two finer races than those for this year's Derby never were seen.' The value of the stakes would be 2,600 sovereigns.

The Duke of Grafton's Turquoise, by Selim out of Pope Joan, by Waxy, beating thirteen opponents, won the Oaks, for which there were seventy-eight subscribers.

Several incidents in connection with the Derby of 1829, other than the race itself, deserve to be chronicled. In the first place, a new
 1829. Frederick. Grand Stand had been erected, and, in the second place, the horses were started for the first time at Epsom by means of flags, the plan successfully adopted at the Doncaster meeting of the preceding year; thirdly, the jockey who rode the winner (Forth) was over sixty years of age! The field numbered seventeen runners, and would have been swelled by three more had not Rupert, Harold, and Camel colt been drawn an hour or two before the race. The subscribers of this year included, as usual, several

members of the aristocracy. Lords Sligo, G. Cavendish, Exeter, Sefton, Grosvenor, and Egremont ran horses in the race. Previous to the day appointed for the contest, there had been many ups and downs in the betting, horses having been brought prominently forward in the market and quoted at short prices that had no chance to win. No previous Derby had shown in the market quotations so many 'first favourites,' and at such long odds. And to show the slings and arrows of the outrageous fortune which oftentimes attend the efforts of backers, it may be here recorded that Cant, which was heavily backed, and might have won, died before the race could be run. The King's Electress colt was another good one which might have shown prominently during the struggle, but death intervened in this case also. Lord Exeter was owner of the colt which enjoyed the pride of place at the start, while the handsome odds of 33 to 1 might have been got about Frederick, the winner. Quoting from a writer of the period, the following paragraph on the subject of the betting on this Derby, which from its commencement up to the Newmarket Craven Meeting possessed an extraordinary character, will be found interesting: 'On former occasions it was thought wisest to back winners, but speculation, like the times, has brought about quite a new thing in the art of making a book. Nowadays, forsooth, it is looked upon as the safest to select the favourites from the crowd of beaten horses, or horses from bad or unlucky stables. For instance, they (the bettors) picked out Canvass, Luss, Prince Eugene, Brother to Moses, etc., upon whom they laid it on pretty strong, having

them at various periods at the top of the odds, nor did they find out their mistake till it was too late to save themselves.'

There is little that is of much interest to chronicle about the running of the race. Frederick, it was soon made obvious to all the lookers-on, had the race at his mercy from the start. When this fact dawned on the spectators it filled them with consternation; very few indeed had thought it at all probable that Frederick would win the Derby. Forth, his trainer and rider, was early of opinion that he had in his stable the winning horse, and when he tried Frederick and found he could beat Exquisite, he felt pretty sure of victory. His original intention was to ride Exquisite himself, but after the trial he changed his mind, and elected to ride the winner, putting up young Buckle on the second horse. Frederick only won by a head; but it was quite clear to all that his veteran jockey might have taken the race by a length, or even two lengths, if he had pleased. His jockeyship was excellent all the way, displaying thorough knowledge of the temper of his horse; in short, his intrepidity and coolness during the race were remarkable, and the belief he entertained of the ability of his horse to win was shown in the fact of his having backed him to win twenty thousand pounds! Nearly every betting man, as the saying goes, was 'on' Patron (winner of the Two Thousand) in the end, which caused the short odds of 6 to 5 to be accepted, and as a rule the betting public lost heavily by the victory of the outsider. The two placed horses were Mr. Gratwicke's bl. c. Frederick, by Little John, dam by Phantom, ridden by John Forth;

Exquisite, the property of Mr. Forth, was awarded second honours. This year a complete list of the jockeys is given. A horse called Oaklands, the property of Mr. Rush, might have been placed third. Value of the stakes, 2,650 sovereigns.

Out of the seventy-seven subscriptions for the Oaks, fifteen runners started. Victory fell to Lord Exeter's filly Green Mantle. His lordship also had second honours with Varna. Mr. Ridsdale's Clotilde, which started favourite, is reputed to have been third. Lord G. H. Cavendish's Young Mouse, winner of the One Thousand Guineas, started second favourite.

Out of the eighty-nine horses entered for the Derby of 1830, run on Thursday, May 27th, twenty-three came to the post—the value of the stakes being 2,800 sovereigns; the second horse earning 100 sovereigns. Several of the prominent sportsmen of the day contributed runners to the race, his Majesty being one of the number. The King's horse was Young Orion, by Master Henry, out of Orion's dam. Three of Lord Exeter's horses ran, one of them being Augustus, by Sultan, out of Augusta, the winner of the Two Thousand. Lords Grosvenor, Egremont, Cleveland, Sligo, Sefton, and G. H. Cavendish also supplied competitors, as did Sir M. Wood (2) and Sir David Baird. The first, second, and third in the race, ridden by Sam Day, S. Templeman, and John Day, respectively, were :

Mr. W. Chifney's b. c. Priam, by Emilius out of Cressida	- 1
Mr. Ridsdale's ch. c. Little Red Rover, by Tramp out of	
Miss Syntax	- - - - - 2
Lord Exeter's b. c. Mahmoud, by Sultan out of Advance	- 3

The favourite at the start was Priam, against whom 4 to 1 was betted, 5 to 1 was laid against Little Red Rover, 6 to 1 against the King's horse, Young Orion, 12 to 1 against Augustus, the winner of the Two Thousand Guineas. A number of false starts occurred before the real race came on for decision, but the horses at length 'got off in a most beautiful manner.' The following is one account of how the victory was achieved by Priam, and it is a noticeable circumstance that the Derby now attracts every year a large degree of attention. 'Donizelli, the property of Mr. Gully, took the lead at a good pace, followed by Lord Exeter's Red Rover, his little namesake lying next, with Port and Mahmoud, the others being well laid up in a body, Priam outside and nearly the last horse in the race. Donizelli continued the running up the hill, when Red Rover challenged and went to the front. He kept there till just before the turn, and then Little Red Rover took the lead, Augustus coming up at the same time. These two maintained the running to the distance, where Mahmoud joined them. Priam had been in the rear till past the rubbing-house, then Sam Day began to draw upon his horse, and at Tattenham Corner he was in the foremost ranks with Young Orion, Brunswicker, Mummer, Thermometer, Brine, etc.; but he waited with great patience till they got to the Grand Stand, where Augustus gave up, Mahmoud at the same time beginning to flag. Day then made a rush *à la Chifney*, shook off Little Red Rover after a short struggle, and won very cleverly by two lengths.'

G. Edwards, riding Mr. Scott Stonehewer's filly,

named Variation, won the Oaks from seventeen competitors ; Lord Sefton's Mouche being second, ridden by G. H. Edwards ; whilst Mr. Corbet's Jenny Vertpre, steered by A. Pavis, was placed third. Lord Jersey's Charlotte West, winner of the One Thousand, was among the starters. Variation won by two lengths. There were seventy-seven subscribers. Priam, it should be recorded here, ultimately found a home in Virginia. The price for which he was sold was thought at the time to be a big one ; it was 3,500 guineas.

Of the twenty-three horses which, on May 19th, started for the Derby of 1831, more than half belonged to persons of title, 'the Dukes and Lords ^{1831.} Spaniel of the Derby' being well represented. The King contributed one runner ; the Dukes of Richmond and Grafton had also one each in the field ; Lord Jersey ran two, one of them getting second ; Lords Sligo, Exeter, Verulam, Chesterfield, and Egremont, also furnished each a runner ; whilst Lord Lowther supplied the winner. Only two of the runners were placed ; these were :

Lord Lowther's b. c. Spaniel, brother to Lapdog, by Whalebone 1
 Lord Jersey's ch. c. Riddlesworth, by Emilius out of Fillagree 2

their respective jockeys being W. Wheatly and H. Edwards. Chifney had two in the race. Mr. S. Day ran Caleb, by Waterloo. Among the other subscribers who contributed to the field were Mr. Cooke, Mr. Beardsworth, Mr. Rush, Mr. Petre, Mr. Thornhill, Mr. Vansittart, and Sir R. W. Bulkeley. Spaniel started at the very remunerative odds of 50 to 1, odds of 6 to 4

being laid on the favourite, Riddlesworth, who had won the Two Thousand Guineas. The race, which was considered 'a slow run one,' was won very easily by nearly three-quarters of a length, and Spaniel, the winner, bred by Lord Egremont, was bought as 'a weed' for a very small sum, as is elsewhere related. The horse, as far as pedigree is an indication, was bred to win, but he made no great show—in fact, was a failure so far as his two-year-old career was concerned. As a three-year-old he was destined to cut a greater figure, the Whalebone blood being better able at that age to assert itself, and so before the Derby Day he had placed two races to his credit. His race was run when he won the Derby, and he did very little good afterwards, winning, however, a plate or two. In all, he ran in nineteen races, of which he won eight, of the collective value of £3,675, to which the Derby contributed £3,000. The value of the stakes that year was £3,200, of which sum £100 was given to the second horse, and £100 was deducted for police expenses! Of Spaniel, what was said by a critic of the period may be here quoted: 'He was honest, stout, and true, and possessed a hide of silk and a heart of oak.'

Oxygen, the property of the Duke of Grafton, and the winner of the Oaks, was the best mare of her year; she was ridden in the race by J. Day, beating Lord Exeter's Marmora by a neck; Lord Lowther's Guitar being third, and Mr. Houldsworth's Circassian fourth. The Duke of Grafton also ran Blassis (afterwards Mistletoe); the King's representative was Minetta. Eighty-six fillies were nominated, from which a field of twenty-one faced the starter.

The nominations this year were less by four than in 1831, still leaving the number above the hundred, which shows that the race had at last become a turf event of considerable importance. Mr. Ridsdale in 1832 ran first and third, his confederate, Mr. Gully, being placed fourth by means of his horse Margrave, which was destined to win the St. Leger of the same year. Of the 101 nominated, twenty-two came to the post, the following three being placed by the judge :

Mr. Ridsdale's ch. c. St. Giles, by Tramp out of Arcot Lass, by Ardrossan - - - - -	1
Mr. Vansittart's ch. c. Perion, by Whisker out of Darioletta -	2
Mr. Ridsdale's ch. c. Trustee, by Catton out of Emma - - -	3

W. Scott was the jockey who rode the winner, and F. Boyce and G. Edwards were on the second and third horses. Lords Exeter and Lowther ran each two horses in the race; Lords Chesterfield, Mountcharles, Worcester, Portarlington, and Oxford also supplied runners, as did Sir G. Heathcote, W. Chifney, and Mr. Forth. St. Giles started favourite, with odds of 3 to 1 against it, 5 to 1 Perion, 6 to 1 Margrave, and 25 to 1 against Trustee, who ran a remarkably good race, being only half a length astern of Perion at the finish; but in the end, after much shifting about, St. Giles took the race by a length and a half, the verdict being 'won easily.' Beiram, Lord Exeter's horse, was at one time favourite for the race, and was greatly liked, but before the start his figure in the price current was 20 to 1. According to a turf writer, St. Giles was 'one of the fastest racers ever seen for the Derby, and a proud triumph for the north country, their horses

being first, second, third, and fourth,' while both the owner, and winner, and the jockey were Yorkshire. An objection was entered against the winner, which caused a sensation: on the matter, one of wrong description, being considered by three gentlemen who were asked to adjudicate, they gave the victory to the horse that had won it. The St. Giles party, it was said at the time, won a 'heap' amongst them, the trainer pocketing a large sum, whilst Crockford was reputed to have gained six or seven 'thou' on his book. St. Giles was kept at work till about the close of his sixth year, and was ultimately sold to go to America. The nominal value of the stakes run for in 1832 was 3,075 sovereigns.

Galata, the property of Lord Exeter, won both the One Thousand Guineas and the Oaks, taking honours in the latter race by two lengths, beating Mr. S. Day's Lady Fly (second), and Mr. Sadler's Eleanor, by Middleton (third). She was ridden by P. Connolly, and started favourite, with odds of 5 to 2 laid against her. Nineteen out of the eighty-three entered ran. 'As St. Giles is to London, so is Galata to Constantinople; and so there's a sort of coincidence, you see, on the two results.' This fine mare won eight of the eleven stakes for which she started.

To the Derby of this year, decided on Thursday, May 23rd, there were 124 subscribers, the largest
1833. number ever recorded up to the date.
Dangerous. Among those who helped to swell the entry, and who sent their horses to the post, were many of the best-known sportsmen of the day, al-

though those possessing titles—or as an old groom used to say, ‘andles to their names’—were conspicuously less than usual. The Dukes of Grafton and Richmond, however, each sent a horse to the post, as did Lords Jersey and Verulam, whilst Lord Exeter had two colts in the field. Mr. John Scott, Mr. C. Forth, and Mr. W. Chifney were also represented, as also Mr. Ridsdale. The horses of Messrs. Greville, Houldsworth, Sir G. Heathcote, and Mr. Payne, also came to the starting-post. The three placed by the judge out of the twenty-five which started (the largest field that had yet competed in the race) were :

Mr. Sadler's ch. c. Dangerous, by Tramp out of Defiance	-	1
Mr. John Scott's br. c. Connoisseur, by Chateaux Margaux	-	2
Mr. Rawlinson's b. c. Revenge, by Fungus	- - -	3

The respective jockeys were J. Chapple, S. Templeman, and T. Cowley. Mr. Ridsdale's Glaucus was elected favourite, and started with odds of 3 to 1 betted against him; the price laid against the first three was 25 to 1, 100 to 1, and 18 to 1. After three or four false starts, the runners got away in fine style. Dangerous defeated Connoisseur at the Grand Stand with scarcely any trouble, by a length; Revenge, coming up stoutly in the last fifty yards, managed to get third honours. Value of the stakes, 3,725 sovereigns.

Although Mr. Cook's Tarantella, the winner of the One Thousand, was made favourite for the Oaks, that filly did not even gain a place, the race falling to Sir Mark Wood's Vespa, who won by a neck, after a severe struggle, and without a quotation in the price list. Chapple was the victorious jockey. The Duke

of Grafton ran second with Octave. Vespa, the winner, was put to the stud, but ultimately found a home in Hungary. The Oaks victory was most unexpected; Sir Mark Wood, when he was told, would hardly believe in his success. Dangerous, the winner of the Derby, also found a home abroad, having been purchased by the French Government.

On Thursday, May 20th, 1834, the Derby was won by a horse named Plenipotentiary, the owner being Mr. Batson. Out of the 123 animals nominated, twenty-two came to the starting-post, two of the number being the property of the Duke of Cleveland. The Dukes of Grafton and Rutland each supplied a runner, as did also Lords Lowther, Orford, and Jersey. The following are the three placed by the judge:

Mr. Batson's ch. c. Plenipotentiary, by Emilius out of Harriet	1
Duke of Cleveland's b. c. Shillelagh, by St. Patrick out of Emilius' dam	- 2
Lord Jersey's ch. c. Glencoe, by Sultan out of Trampoline	- 3

P. Conolly rode the winner, the rider of Shillelagh being S. Chifney, whilst Glencoe, which had previously won the Two Thousand Guineas, was handled by J. Robinson. Pavis, Buckle, W. Scott, J. Day, Chapple, and other well-known horsemen of the time had also mounts in the Derby of 1834, which was won by Mr. Batson's horse in a canter, by two lengths. In these days great delays often took place before the horses could be started; in the case of the race now being referred to there were five false starts—false starts, indeed, were of frequent occurrence. Plenipo started favourite in the betting, with odds of 5 to 2 betted

against him, 3 to 1 being offered against Shillelagh. The value of the stakes in 1834 would amount to 3,625 sovereigns. The Derby of 1834 was thought at the time it was run to have been a race of more than ordinary interest, because of the many good horses that took part in the struggle—Plenipo being greatly admired and much thought of, especially by the ‘gentlemen’; he was thought, indeed, to be a horse the like of which might never again be looked upon. The Chifneys declared he was a 5 lb. better horse than ever Priam had been, and in consequence backed him very heavily. As was to be expected, Plenipo was made favourite for the St. Leger; but, unfortunately for his backers, he made no show in the great north-country race, at which the racing public professed to be thunderstricken, and many were not slow to assert that on the St. Leger Day Plenipo was ‘a safe ’un.’ An offer of £5,000 down, or £1,000 a year as long as he might live, was refused for the Derby victor of 1834.

Fifteen fillies ran for the Oaks, which fell to Mr. Crosby, by the aid of Pussy, ridden by J. Day; Mr. Forth’s Louisa was second, Mr. Richardson’s Lady Le Gros third. The winner started with odds of 20 to 1 betted against her, and won cleverly enough by a length. There were ninety-five subscriptions taken out for the race.

Three dukes and three noble lords were among those who nominated (there were 128 subscribers) and ran horses on Epsom Heath this
1835. and ran horses on Epsom Heath this
Mundig. year with a view to winning the great
race of the period, which, however, fell to Mr. Bowes’

ch. c. Mundig, odds of 6 to 1 being laid against him at the start, the favourite being one of the Ibrahims. It must have been productive of some confusion to find two horses of the same name in the betting; but as neither of them won nor was much fancied for a place, no wrangling took place. The race, as described by the turf reporters of the day, seems to have been of a most common-place description. The pace is described as being 'severe throughout, but there was not much of a tail at the finish,' which would point to the field being pretty much on an equality. 'All the horses were very moderate,' asserts one writer; 'how can it be otherwise when we find such an animal as Pelops third?' The race was behind time in consequence of the fractiousness of one or two of the horses. There were several false starts; Silenus at length went off with the lead in order to serve Ibrahim, whilst Luck's All was started to pilot Mr. Ridsdale's c. Coriolanus. Silenus took his field along at a powerful rate of speed, all the horses keeping well together; nor did Lord Jersey's horse give up his place till he was well within the distance. Just before reaching the road Mundig and Ascot both bettered their places, the first-named taking the upper ground, and the latter taking the lower part of the road. When the Stand was reached only four seemed to be left with any chance of winning the race—these were Ibrahim, Ascot, Pelops, and Mundig. Each of these seemed to be running a match, so to put the case—Ibrahim and Ascot, and Pelops and Mundig. Before the stand was reached one of each of these pairs cried *Peccavi*. Mundig and Ascot were then

only left of the fourteen to fight out the battle. It was a moment of suspense as the two came on locked together, just *at the post* (which is the right place to win). Mundig won the race; at the next stride Ascot's head was in front. As a matter of fact, this year's Derby was won on the post, and for some brief moments it was not known to which horse the judge would accord the victory. Only two horses were placed, but to Pelops was generally awarded the honour of being third. He was a full length behind Ascot, and Ibrahim was so close beside him that it was difficult to separate them. A gentleman who witnessed this struggle for the 'Blue Ribbon,' told the writer in Blue Gown's year that if time had been taken in Mundig's year it would have recorded a very fast-run race. W. Scott was the successful jockey in a field of fourteen. The value of the stakes, subject to the usual deductions, was £3,550, and Mr. Bowes is said to have won £10,000 in bets, the trainer of the horse and his brother, who rode it, bagging each an equal sum by the victory of Mundig.

Mundig before being withdrawn from work did a good deal of what was described by an old turfite as 'general utility work.' He won eleven races between Epsom and Doncaster, so that the horse was not allowed to eat the bread of idleness. The winner of the Two Thousand, Lord Jersey's b. c. Ibrahim, by Sultan, ran in the race for the Derby.

The Oaks this year was won in a 'common canter' by Mr. Mostyn's br. f. Queen of Trumps, who beat nine competitors. She was ridden by T. Lye. There were ninety-eight subscribers to the race. Mr. Gre-

ville's Preserve, winner of the One Thousand, started favourite. With odds of 6 to 4 betted against her, Queen of Trumps won the race for the St. Leger at Doncaster.

Public interest in the Derby began to grow more intense about the middle of the 'thirties,' when the entries began to grow and multiply till ^{1836.} Bay Middleton. the year (1868) Blue Gown credited Sir Joseph Hawley with the stakes accruing from 262 entries and eighteen runners. Only once since Blue Gown's year has a larger number of horses been entered, and that was when Sir Bevys won from twenty-two competitors, the number entered being 278. The value of the stakes depends chiefly on the number of horses entered, and in a lesser degree on the number that run. The amount won by the victory of Sir Bevys in 1879 was the largest that has ever fallen to the owner of a Derby winner. The greatest number of horses that ever ran for the race was in 1862, when Caractacus carried off the stakes, beating thirty-three competitors. As has been indicated, no great amount of interest was excited by the Derby in the earlier years of its existence, nor was much written about it in the newspapers of that time. In 1836 the number of horses nominated was, as in the preceding year, 128, and of these twenty-one came to the starting-post on May 19th. Although as many as five of the horses might have been placed, only two were so honoured. These were :

Lord Jersey's b. c. Bay Middleton, brother to Nell Gwynne,	
by Sultan out of Cobweb	- - - - - 1
Lord Wilson's ch. c. Gladiator, by Partisan out of Pauline	- 2

ridden respectively by J. Robinson and W. Scott. Mr. J. Day's Venison came in third, Colonel Peel's Slane and Lord Chesterfield's Alfred being fourth and fifth respectively. The Colonel and Lord Chesterfield had each another colt in the race. The Dukes of Beaufort and Richmond also supplied competitors, as did also Lords Egremont, Exeter, and Lichfield. Bay Middleton ran home a gallant winner by two lengths, and as winner of the Two Thousand was elected favourite with odds of 7 to 4 betted against him. Lord George Bentinck became the purchaser of the winner, paying for him a sum of 4,000 guineas. Value of the stakes, 3,725 sovereigns.

Steered to victory by W. Scott, Mr. J. Scott's Cyprian, by Partisan out of Frailty, by Filho da Puta, won the Oaks, beating eleven competitors, there being ninety-eight subscribers. Mr. Houldsworth's Destiny, winner of the One Thousand, came in second. Odds of 2 to 1 were offered against Cyprian at the start. 'It was a beautiful race at the close, Scott by dint of punishment landing his mare first by half a length.'

That not much was thought of the chance of Phosphorus for Derby honours is evidenced by the price of
 1837. the horse in the betting, namely, the odds
 Phosphorus. of 40 to 1 against him at the start, the favourite being a horse belonging to the Duke of Rutland, called Rat Trap. As a matter of fact, Lord Berners' colt was a dark horse, although the poet who initiated the system of tips in verse went for him :

'Tis over ; the trick for the thousands is done ;
 George Edwards on Phosphorus the Derby has won.'

But the 'knowing' turf men of 1837 asserted that the odds were all Lombard Street to an orange against him. And yet he won the race, his jockey being the G. Edwards of the rhyme, who beat Pavis, Conolly, W. Scott, J. Day, S. Chifney and all the other jockeys who took part in the race. Finding, the night before the Derby, that the horse was lame, his trainer went to his owner to know what was to be done: the orders given were laconic, but to the point: 'Run—I always run.' Only two of the seventeen horses which composed the field seem to have attracted the attention of the judge. These were:

Lord Berners' b. c. Phosphorus, by Lamplighter out of Cameron's dam	- - - - -	1
Lord Suffield's br. c. Caravan, by Camel out of Wings	- - - - -	2

Three of the other runners were each named as being third, two of which were in the ownership of Lord Exeter; these were Hibiscus and Dardanelles; Mr. Osbaldeston's Mahomedan was the other claimant for place honours. Still another horse was supplied by Lord Exeter in Troilus, by Priam, out of Green Mantle. One of the animals which helped to swell the field, Pegasus, by Shakespeare out of Isabella, was ridden by a bootmaker of the name of Barelay, who, for a non-professional, made a reasonable figure up to a certain point. At the third trial a good start was effected, and after 'the usual ups and downs,' Phosphorus landed the race in the last three or four strides, the struggle at the conclusion being quite equal in interest and severity to that witnessed between Mundig and Ascot in the race of 1835. There were nominated for this year's 'Blue Ribbon' 131

horses, and the value of the stakes would be 3,700 sovereigns.

Ninety-two fillies were nominated for the Oaks of 1837, of which thirteen faced the starter. The winner was found in Miss Letty, by Priam out of Miss Fanny's dam, ridden by John Holms, and nominated by Mr. Powlett, the winner of the One Thousand, Chateau d'Espagne, mounted by John Day, being second; Lord Exeter, who ran two of his fillies in the race, being awarded third honours. Chateau d'Espagne was made favourite in the betting, with odds of 2 to 1 offered against her; the odds against the winner at the start were 7 to 1, and she won easily by a length, which, had her rider pleased, might have easily been increased. The filly was not named till she had been placed on the roll of Oaks winners.

The grave of Amato, the 'coughing pony,' who won the Derby of 1838, is still to be seen by those
 1838. who pass through the Durdans on their
 Amato. way to the hill. It was a victory of local importance; the horse was the property of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, and had been trained at Epsom by Ralph Sherrard, who died at the patriarchal age of eighty-nine years. Amato was, in turf parlance, a 'dark horse' that, previous to winning the Derby, had never appeared in public, and only ran one race—that being the Derby—so that Amato may be described as a 'single speech Hamilton' among race-horses! Sir Gilbert, who was not a betting man, running his horses for honour and stakes only, was much complimented on his rather unexpected victory.

A deputation from the town of Epsom waited on him at the Durdans, and in reply to their congratulations Sir Gilbert said that he looked upon their good opinions thus expressed as equal to winning the race itself. As has been stated, Sir Gilbert never betted, and the claims of Amato to Derby honours were not recognised till about the middle of April, and then 100 to 1 was offered against 'the pony,' as some called the horse, which, however, stood 15½ hands high. The price of the winner at the start may be put down as being 100 to 3, and several residents of Epsom, from seeing the horse in training, backed him to win them a little money, and so profited by the result.

The following list of the placed horses and other starters of Amato's year, as also the description of the race, is taken from a newspaper of the period :

Sir G. Heathcote's Amato, by Velocipede out of Jane Shore (Chapple) - - - - -	1
Colonel Peel's Ion, by Cain out of Margaret (Pavis) - -	2
Lord G. Bentinck's Grey Momus, by Comus (S. Day) - -	3

Mr. H. Combe's Cobham, Lord Jersey's Phoenix, Mr. Payne's Young Rowton, Captain Berkeley's Bullion, Mr. Tarlton's Blaise, Sir J. Mill's Volunteer, Lord Chesterfield's Bretby, Lord Westmoreland's Albe-marle, Mr. E. Peel's Early Bird, Duke of Grafton's Chemist, Mr. Forth's Conservator, Mr. Stirling's Miss Manager colt, Lord George Bentinck's D'Egville, Mr. Worrall's Dormouse, Mr. Buckley's Tom, Mr. Edward's Drum Major, General Grosvenor's Dædalus, Mr. Bend's Scurry colt, Mr. Pettitt's Surprise colt, Sir James Boswell's Constantine.

Betting: 2 to 1 Grey Momus, 7 to 2 Cobham, 7 to 1 Phœnix, 8 to 1 D'Egville, 13 to 1 Young Rowton, 25 to 1 Early Bird, 30 to 1 Amato, 1,000 to 15 Bretby, 1,000 to 15 Dædalus, Constantine, and the Scurry colt jointly.

'The race was appointed to be run at two o'clock, but, what with delay amongst the jockeys and two or three false starts, the clock had struck three before the horses were off. Even then the start was so unsatisfactory that several half stopped their horses. Young Rowton was pulled up after running to the first post, and the Surprise colt was left behind altogether. It is strange that this bungling work occurs only at Epsom. Finding that the flag was down, Bretby went away at a very good pace, followed by Amato, Grey Momus, and Tom, with Phœnix, Ion, Conservator, Dædalus, D'Egville, and Cobham well up, the latter lying inside. Albemarle, who had a bad start, soon joined this lot. They observed this order up the hill, at the top of which Bretby declined and fell into the rear. The Grey then took the lead, which he kept to the turn. Phœnix, who had run well to this point, tired and gave up, so also did D'Egville; Constantine, Cobham, and others having shut up long before. On making the turn, Amato shot by the Grey, and increased the pace tremendously, the Grey following, Tom still up, and Ion just beginning to emerge from the ruck of beaten horses. Amato had made the Grey safe directly he took up the running, and although Ion made a desperate effort for victory half-way up the distance, it was with no other result than to get second place.

The judge awarded the prize to the Epsom nag by a length, his advantage over the Grey being four times as great.'

The best claim to notice which the Derby of 1838 can put forth is the fact of the public being, for the first time, carried to Epsom by railway in that year. The accommodation provided at Nine Elms was utterly inadequate to the numbers who desired to be taken to Epsom, and the arrangements resulted in a partial breakdown; the immense crowd who assembled at the station, impatient to reach the scene of action, carried the place by storm, and impeded the officials. Not till a large body of police, who had been sent for by the authorities, came on the scene could order be restored, or the station be cleared of persons who insisted upon being taken by the railway to see the Derby. At twelve o'clock the carriage resources of the company were exhausted, and a notice was at once issued to the effect that 'no more trains will start this morning.' Hundreds were, of course, terribly disappointed at the breakdown, and had no alternative but to revert to the old modes of conveyance by carriage of some kind, at a cost of from three shillings to five shillings each. The value of the stakes in 1838 was 4,005 sovereigns. The race was run on a Wednesday.

The Oaks of the year fell to the share of Lord Chesterfield by the victory of his br. f. Industry, which was ridden by W. Scott. Out of the ninety-seven fillies nominated, fifteen came to the post. In addition to the winner, Lord Chesterfield and Lord Exeter was doubly represented. The Duke of Grafton,

Colonel Peel, and other sportsmen also contributed to the field. The second filly was made favourite, Lord Suffield's Calisto, against which odds of 5 to 2 were betted.

'The Derbys' about this time, for several years 'fore and aft,' presented no aspect of novelty, being, ^{1839.} as a rule, common-place races. Notwith-
Bloomsbury. standing that fact, the general body of the public, whatever may have been felt by sportsmen, did not abate their interest in the struggle one jot. Each year the crowd of spectators seemed to wax greater, the road and the rail being more thronged than on previous Derby Days. The betting, too, increased, both in the amount of the bets and the number of bettors. 'Sweeps' grew in popularity, and became a feature of nearly every public-house parlour throughout London, as also in large shops and warehouses, whilst in the Great Metropolis the inhabitants appeared eager to seize the occasion of the mighty contest in order to obtain a holiday. Bloomsbury's year may be described as a somewhat memorable one, from the fact of the race having been run during a snowstorm, and also because of an objection which was lodged against the winner by Mr. Fulwar Craven, owner of Deception, which, although she only obtained second place in the Derby, recompensed her owner by winning the Oaks on the following Friday. Bloomsbury, which started at the very handsome odds of 30 to 1 against it, was what is called, in the slang of the turf, a 'dark horse;' in other words, it had never previously run in a race. The reason why an objection

was taken to the winner was that the 'Calendar' and 'Stud-Book' differed as to his pedigree, the 'Calendar's' description being by Mulatto, whilst the 'Stud-Book' gave it as by Tramp or Mulatto. The objection was overruled by the Stewards of Epsom Races. Mr. Craven was not satisfied, and, being determined to go to law about the matter, gave notice to the stakeholders not to pay the stakes to Mr. Ridsdale. There was great confusion in consequence among backers and layers, but, to make a long story short, when the cause at length came to trial, the verdict was in agreement with that of the stewards. In writing of the race and its troubles, a critic of the event said of Bloomsbury: 'He was a most fortunate horse, though almost unfortunate to his owners and backers. He won the Derby and a lawsuit; he caused the non-settlement of a settlement; he embroiled Lords and Commons, enriched poor men, impoverished wealth, and made all the world stare when their eyes were opened.' Although only two of the twenty-one runners were placed, those who saw the race had no difficulty in spotting the animals which came in third and fourth, namely, Mr. Thornhill's Euclid and Colonel Peel's Dey of Algiers. The first and second were:

Mr. W. Ridsdale's b. c. Bloomsbury, by Mulatto	-	-	-	1
Mr. Fulwar Craven's b. f. Deception, by Defence	out	of		
Lady Stumps	-	-	-	2

The respective jockeys were S. Templeman and Trenn. Lord Jersey ran two of his; Lords Westminster, Exeter, and Albemarle also contributed to the field. Lord Lichfield's Corsair, winner of the Two Thousand, also faced the starter. Long descriptions

of the race have been published, but Bloomsbury beat Deception cleverly by two lengths. Lord Westminster's Sleight-of-Hand was favourite in the betting, with odds of 9 to 2 betted against him; the odds offered against the winner have already been stated, 30 to 1. Value of the stakes, 4,100 sovereigns.

Deception, second in the Derby, won the Oaks in a canter, without ever having been headed. J. Day was the fortunate jockey. There were ninety-six subscribers, and thirteen fillies came to the post. Betting: 6 to 4 on Deception.

The appearance at Epsom of the Queen and Prince Albert was *the* feature of this year's Derby, which was ^{1840.} won by Mr. Robertson's horse called Little Wonder. Out of the 144 colts nominated, seventeen started for the race, but only two of the number were placed by the judge. These were:

Little Wonder, by Muley out of Lacerta, by Zodiac	-	-	1
Lord Westminster's Launcelot, brother to Touchstone	-	-	2

The horseman who rode the winner was William Macdonald, who was presented with an elegant riding-whip by Prince Albert. The rider of Launcelot was W. Scott, who afterwards won the St. Leger on the same animal. Most of the celebrated jockeys of the period had mounts in the Derby of 1840—Rogers, Flatman, J. Day, jun.; Robinson, Buckle, and others. Forth rode his own horse, a brown colt by Muley out of Solace. Among the horses which ran were a colt by Mulatto out of Melody, which might have been placed third; the Duke of Cleveland and Lord Exeter had each two in

the race. The colts of Lords Albemarle, Kelburne, Orford, and Jersey, also helped to swell the field. Mr. Houldsworth and Sir G. Heathcote also supplied runners. The start was somewhat protracted by a break-away, but in the end Little Wonder came in victorious by fully half a length. The value of the stakes, after making the usual deductions, was £3,775. The winner's figure in the betting was 20 to 1, the favourite being Launcelot at odds of 9 to 4 against.

Lord George Bentinck's celebrated filly Crucifix, the winner of the Two Thousand Guineas, ridden by John Day, sen., won the Oaks, beating a field of fifteen; Mr. Payne's Welfare was second, her rider being Nat Flatman; a filly named Teleta was third. Lord George also ran his filly by Glencoe out of Victoria, with odds of 5 to 4 laid on her. The same filly, ridden by his Derby jockey, won the Oaks in a field which numbered thirteen. There were 130 subscribers to that year's race.

In the big field (the largest ever yet seen for the Derby) of twenty-nine horses—the entries numbered 154—the recipient of the 'Blue Ribbon' in 1841. Coronation. 1841 was Mr. Rawlinson, who won the race by the aid of his br. c. Coronation, which was ridden by P. Conolly. Two only out of the field were placed—namely:

Coronation, by Sir Hercules out of Ruby	-	-	-	-	1
Lord Westminster's b. c. Van Amburgh	-	-	-	-	2

As will be seen, Lord Westminster was again second. He ran two in the race, and made a declaration to win with Marshal Soult, which was beaten early in the

struggle. The weighing-out of the jockeys for this Derby, we read, was completed by two o'clock, but in consequence of six or seven false starts it was nearly four o'clock before the starter was able to set the lot away on equitable terms. The race was won easily by Coronation; 'by three lengths' was the verdict of the man in authority. No favourite had won since the victory of Bay Middleton in 1836. The odds offered against the winner were 5 to 2; the price of Van Amburgh was 12 to 1. Ralph, winner of the Two Thousand, was second favourite at 5 to 1. In addition to the stake, valued at £4,275, Mr. Rawlinson won £8,000 in bets. Mr. Isaac Day, who had partial charge of the horse, was by far the largest winner over the race. The Duke of Rutland, as also Lords Jersey, Albemarle, Exeter, and Orford, contributed colts to the field of runners.

Lord Westminster was more fortunate in the Oaks, which he won by the aid of Ghuznee, ridden by W. Scott. His lordship also supplied a runner in Lam-poon. As in the Derby, the judge seems only to have placed two. Miss Stilton was second in a good field of twenty-two.

Of the 182 horses nominated for the Derby of 1842, there came to the starting-post twenty-four, Lord

^{1842.} Westminster again trying his luck by run-
 Attila. ning two of his colts, neither of which succeeded in attracting the attention of the judge. Only two of the lot were placed; these were:

Colonel Anson's b. or br. Attila, by Colwick out of Progress 1
 Lord Verulam's br. c. Robert De Gorham - - - - 2

W. Scott and W. Cotton being the respective jockeys. Mr. Allen's b. c. Belcœur, ridden by J. Marson, might have been placed third, which was the position of the horse at the close of the race. Attila won with the most perfect ease imaginable by two lengths. The price against the winner at the start was 5 to 1. Coldrenick, the favourite, was backed at 6 to 4, but made no great show in the struggle, contrary to the expectations entertained by his backers. The value of the stakes is set down as being £4,900. Lords George Bentinck and Chesterfield also supplied runners. Mr. Forth contributed two colts to the number of starters, and Mr. Meiklam, General Yates, Mr. Osbaldeston, and Colonel Wyndham also ran colts.

The Oaks of the period, for which there were 117 subscribers and sixteen runners, was secured by Mr. G. Dawson, jun.'s ch. f. Our Nell, ridden by T. Lye; Meal, by Bran out of Tintoretto, the property of Mr. Shackle, was second. The race was won cleverly by a length. Fillies of the Dukes of Richmond and Grafton helped to swell the field. Lords George Bentinck, Chesterfield, Exeter, and Jersey, were also represented in the race.

Twenty-three of the 156 colts which had been nominated ran in this year's Derby, victory falling to Mr. Bowes by the aid of Cotherstone, which had previously won the Two Thousand. Strong steps were taken by the stewards to put a stop to the system of false starts by issuing a peremptory notice to the jockeys, which seemed to have the necessary effect, an admirable start being

effected for once. Cotherstone, ridden by W. Scott, won in a common canter by two lengths. As seems to have been a rule at this time, two horses only were again placed by the judge :

Cotherstone, by Touchstone out of Emma, by Whisker	-	1
Colonel Charritie's b. c. Gorhambury, by Buzzard	-	2

F. Buckle had the mount on the latter, and Rogers, Flatman, Marlow, S. Chifney, and other famous horse-men of the time took part in the struggle. Lord G. Bentinck's Gaper, which started second favourite, and from which so much was expected, continued to lead a few strides over the road, and then, quite beaten, fell behind; a brown colt named Dinkol, the property of Sir G. Heathcote, was third. Value of the stakes, £4,225. The notice issued to the jockeys was as follows: 'No false start will be allowed. Every jockey attempting to go before the starter has given the word will be considered as taking an unfair advantage under Rule 57, and fined accordingly.'

The Oaks was won by Mr. Ford's ch. f. Poison, by Plenipotentiary out of Arsenic, F. Butler being the successful jockey; Extempore, winner of the One Thousand, was second. There were ninety-six nominations, out of which twenty-three faced the starter.

It would not be difficult to indite a very long yarn about this year's Derby, for which a horse called
 1844. Running Rein had been entered by a Mr.
 Orlando. Wood. This colt, which came in first for
 the race, did not, however, obtain the stakes, nor did
 persons who had backed it to win obtain payment of

their bets. Although the horse was allowed to start for the Derby, it was well enough known by all interested that in the event of its winning it would be objected to, and there was great excitement in consequence. As soon as the judge had given his decision, Colonel Peel claimed the stakes, and as legal proceedings were to be taken for the recovery of the money, it was at once paid into the Court of Exchequer by Messrs. Weatherby, who acted as stake-holders. In that court the trial took place, when it was proved that the animal which was started as a three-year-old, in compliance with the conditions of the Derby, was in reality Maccabeus, and was four years of age. A verdict in accordance with the evidence gave the race to Orlando, and the stakes raced for to his owner, Colonel Peel, who was warmly congratulated on his success, as was also Lord George Bentinck, who had played an active part in exposing the plot. Another colt which ran in the Derby of 1844 was Leander, which, had it won, would not have been awarded Derby honours—seeing that it, also, would have been proved to be a four-year-old—but no difficulty arose, as, in running, Leander fell and, breaking his leg, required to be destroyed. This year Colonel Peel ran first and second (ignoring the performance of Running Rein), Orlando beating Ionian by two lengths, Bay Momus being close up. There were twenty-nine runners, including the impostor, and the placings of the judge were as follows :

Colonel Peel's b. c. Orlando, by Touchstone out of Vulture	-	1
Colonel Peel's b. c. Ionian, by Ion out of Malibran	-	2
Colonel Anson's b. c. Bay Momus, by Bay Middleton	-	3

The respective jockeys were J. Day, jun., on Orlando, G. Edwards and F. Butler riding second and third. Mr. J. Day, Mr. J. Osborn, and Mr. Forth also supplied candidates. Sir Gilbert Heathcote ran two of his colts, Akbar and Campanero. Mr. Bowes supplied a competitor in T'auld Squire; Lords Glasgow and Westminster were also represented in the race. Mr. J. Day's horse, The Ugly Buck, winner of the Two Thousand, was favourite with odds of 5 to 2 laid against it; 10 to 1 against Running Rein, 14 to 1 Leander, and 20 to 1 Orlando. The subscribers to the Derby of 1844 numbered 153, and the value of the stakes would be £4,450.

Out of 117 horses nominated for the Oaks, twenty-five came to the starting-post. The race was won by F. Butler on Colonel Anson's ch. f. The Princess, Lord Exeter's Merope being second, and Mr. Gregory's bl. f. Barricade third. Won by two lengths—5 to 1 against the winner. Curiously enough, Julia, one of the runners, started by the owner of Leander, was found on examination to be a four-year-old.

Of the 137 subscribers in Merry
 1845. Merry Mon-
 arch. arch. Monarch's year, thirty-two came to the
 post, four of which were distinguished by
 the judge; these were:

Mr. Gratwicke's b. c. The Merry Monarch, by Slane	-	-	1
Mr. A. Johnstone's br. c. Annandale, by Touchstone	-	-	2
Mr. Gully's b. c. Old England, by Mulatto	-	-	3
Mr. Mostyn's br. c. Pantassa, by Picaroon	-	-	4

The respective horsemen were F. Bell, Marson, S. Day, and Marlow. The owner of the winning horse

also ran his b. c. Doleful, by Slane, which ran well. Wood-Pigeon, the property of Lord Exeter, made likewise a creditable show in the race; Mr. Gully's Weatherbit also put in an appearance. Lord Stradbroke was represented by Idas, which had won the Two Thousand. Lords Chesterfield, Verulam, and Glasgow also contributed to the strength of the field, as did also the Duke of Richmond. Colonel Peel, Mr. Greville, and Mr. Mytton were also represented in the race. Idas was made favourite with odds of 3 to 1 offered against it, 7 to 2 was laid against Weatherbit, 15 to 1 against Forth's lot. 'Won by a length,' but the struggle was not without incident: Alarm kicked Libel and ran away, but was captured and remounted. In the race Pam fell, about the bend of the course, and Old England and Weatherbit jumped over him. The horse was much injured; not so his rider, who had the good sense to lie still. Value of the stakes, £4,225.

The Oaks was secured for the Duke of Richmond by the aid of his br. f. Refraction, ridden by H. Bell. Mr. Bennett's ch. f. Hope was placed second, and Major Tarburgh's Miss Sarah third. The verdict of the judge was, 'Won easily by two lengths.' A filly called Queen of Cyprus was not allowed to start, being declared by Messrs. Bartlett, the veterinary surgeons, to be a four-year-old; on being examined by other vets., she was declared to be a three-year-old. There were 128 subscribers to the Oaks, twenty-one of which came to the starting-post. The odds laid against the winner were 25 to 1, Lancashire Witch being favourite at 7 to 2 against her chance.

Mr. Gully's ch. c. Pyrrhus the First was destined to be the hero of this year's Derby, for which 193 subscribers had entered, the field numbering twenty-seven horses, three of which, as is the general rule, were placed by the judge, namely :

Mr. Gully's ch. c. Pyrrhus the First, by Epirus	-	-	-	1
Mr. W. Scott's b. c. Sir Tatton Sykes, by Melbourne	-	-	-	2
General Shubrick's br. c. Brocardo, by Touchstone	-	-	-	3

S. Day rode the winner for Mr. Gully, Scott rode his own, and a jockey named Holmes was on Brocardo. The race was won by a neck; Brocardo was beaten a length by Sir Tatton, who had won the Two Thousand Guineas. Mr. Meiklam's Fancy Boy started favourite with odds of 5 to 1 betted against him; Pyrrhus the First was made second favourite at 8 to 1, 16 to 1 against Sir Tatton, 25 to 1 Brocardo. Many of the sportsmen of the period ran their horses in this year's Derby; Sir Joseph Hawley's Humdrum, Mr. Merry's colt by Don Juan, Mr. Ramsey of Barnton's Malcolm, Count Batthyany's Tragical, Lord Eglinton's Sotades, and Colonel Anson's Iago being among the starters. The amount of the stakes won by Gully was £5,500. One of the incidents connected with this year's race was the fining of W. Scott £5 for disobeying orders and using improper language. The Derby now began to be 'timed'; 2m. 55s. is set down for Pyrrhus the First.

Mr. Gully had the good fortune to take the double event—Derby and Oaks—the latter being gained by the aid of Mendicant, who had previously won the One

Thousand Guineas, S. Day being again the successful horseman. Mr. Wyatt's Laundrymaid ran second to Mendicant, one of Lord Glasgow's unnamed ones being third. There were 140 fillies entered, twenty-four of which faced the starter. Mr. Gully's filly won easily by two lengths. The betting was 9 to 4 against the winner, and 12 to 1 against Laundrymaid.

Run on Wednesday, May 19th, the field for the Derby comprised thirty-two horses, one gentleman (Mr. Mostyn) supplying four of the runners; ^{1847.} Cossack. six of the competitors, it is worth noting, were the produce of Lanercost, two of his 'get' being placed. The three named by the judge were :

Mr. Pedley's ch. c. Cossack, by Hetman Platoff	-	-	-	1
Mr. Bouverie's br. c. War Eagle, by Lanercost	-	-	-	2
Lord Eglinton's br. c. Van Tromp	-	-	-	3

The winner was ridden by Templeman, starting with odds of 5 to 1 against him. Conyngham, winner of the Two Thousand, was made favourite, his price being 5 to 2, 7 to 1 Van Tromp, 20 to 1 War Eagle. The Duke of Richmond, Lord Glasgow, Mr. Merry, Lord Strathmore, Colonel Anson, Mr. Bowes, and other good sportsmen of the day, supplied runners to the race. The race was an easy one : Cossack, almost at the start, went to the front and was never headed. 188 subscribers ; value of the stakes, £5,500.

Four were placed for the Oaks, which was won by Sir Joseph Hawley's roan, Miami, the jockey being Templeman, who also rode the winner of the Derby. Sir Joseph's filly was followed home by Mr. Payne's

Clementina, Captain Harcourt's Ellerdale, and Lord Exeter's Cosachia. Lord Chesterfield started two of his, so did Mr. Mostyn; Sir Joseph Hawley supplied another runner, and Mr. Merry was also represented in the race, to which there were 152 subscribers and twenty-three runners. With odds of 9 to 1 laid against her, Miami won by a length.

The favourite won the Derby of 1848, to which
 1848. there were 215 subscribers and seventeen
 Surplice. starters. Four horses were placed :

Lord Clifden's b. c. Surplice, by Touchstone out of Crucifix	-	1
Mr. Bowes' b. c. Springy Jack, by Hetman Platoff	-	2
Mr. B. Green's bl. c. Shylock, by Simoom	-	3
Mr. Payne's b. c. Glendown, by Slane	-	4

Templeman again rode the winner, F. Butler, S. Mann, and Flatman having the mounts on the second, third, and fourth horses. No animal of any particular note made its appearance among the starters. The Duke of Rutland and Lords Clifton and Eglinton were represented in the race, as were also Mr. J. B. Day and Mr. T. Parr. 'Won by a neck,' was the verdict of the judge. Betting: evens on Surplice, 4 to 1 against Glendown, 14 to 1 Shylock, 15 to 1 Saucy Jack. 215 subscribers; 17 starters. Value of stakes, £5,800.

There were 152 subscribers to the Oaks, and an excellent field resulted, twenty-six animals being placed at the bidding of the starter. Mr. Dixon's f. Do it Again was made favourite; but Cymba, the property of Mr. S. Hill, ridden by Templeman, won the race by a length, being followed by Mr. Quin's

Attraction and Mr. Foljambe's Queen of the May. Lord Exeter ran two of his; and Mr. Merry, Baron Rothschild, Colonel Peel, and Sir Joseph Hawley all supplied competitors.

There were this year 237 subscribers to the Derby, and the field numbered twenty-six horses, 1849. The Flying Dutchman. four of which were placed by the judge, namely:

Lord Eglinton's br. c. The Flying Dutchman	-	-	-	1
Mr. Godwin's br. c. Hotspur, by Sir Hercules	-	-	-	2
Colonel Peel's b. c. Tadmor, by Ion	-	-	-	3
Lord Clifden's b. c. Honeycomb, by Bay Middleton	-	-	-	4

Lord Eglinton also ran his c. Elthiron, declaring, however, to win with the Dutchman, who was ridden by Marlow; Whitehouse, Flatman, and Robinson being on the other placed horses. Tadmor and The Flying Dutchman started equal favourites in the betting, at 2 to 1 each; but the half-bred Hotspur was the horse most liked by the crowd. He made a gallant fight for victory, and had he not been 'hashed about' a good deal before reaching the starting-post, he might have won. The Dutchman gained the verdict of the judge by only 'half a length.' The start was a good one, but, as is frequently seen in great races, the horses that attract attention by the alacrity with which they start are soon beaten; Uriel, for instance, which led the field on the present occasion for a few seconds, was passed by Weston, Chantrey, Henry of Exeter, Elthiron, the stable companion of the winner, and Tadmor. Weston in his turn was displaced in the lead by Vatican; a few horses followed, and then came

the two animals who were destined to fight out the battle—Hotspur and The Dutchman—each of them running well within their powers, their jockeys watching for good places. Hotspur ran with great gameness, and when Vatican was beaten at the road, took his place in front of all the field. Now the aspect of the race assumed a different hue—Marlow, on The Flying Dutchman, coming round the turn almost hugging the rails, and looking all over intent on business. Hotspur, however, was at his side, and seemed as if he would prove in the end as gallant a runner as Lord Eglinton's colt. At this juncture of the race Tadmor was in the third place for a time, but failed for a brief space to maintain that position, not being able to race with two such horses as the Dutchman and Hotspur. The latter continued to stick well to the Earl's nag, and looked, at the Stand, as if he would win; but Marlow rousing up The Dutchman by a smart touch or two of his whip, the effort proved successful; but it was only by half a length that the 'Lord of the Tournament' held at Eglinton Castle secured the 'Blue Ribbon of the Turf.' Tadmor, who had been beaten for pace, 'came again,' as the saying is; and but for having to go round Hotspur to obtain an opening, by which he lost three lengths, might have landed the fifties to one which some of his admirers took about his chance; as it was, this disappointed horse was only half a length behind Hotspur, so that the reader will see the contest was a keen one. The struggle for this year's Derby lasted for exactly three minutes, being twelve seconds more than the race of the preceding year. Uriel, which started with the lead,

obtained fifth place; Honeycomb, after several disappointments, came on with a great show of speed in the end, and got fourth. The Earl of Eglinton, and Fobert, of Spigot Lodge, near Middleham, who trained for his lordship, were sanguine of success on this occasion, having tried the Dutchman to be ten pounds better than his stable companion Elthiron, which was not a mean animal. His lordship, not being a heavy bettor, only won £8,000 in addition to the stake, and he had that sum at comparatively little risk, having obtained good odds. Half a dozen members of the Army and Navy Club threw in for the handsome stake of £30,000 between them. Some Glasgow gentlemen won each a few thousands, but there is no record of any very heavy wagers being lost or won. Davis, 'the Leviathan,' as he was called, lost over £20,000 on his book; his sympathies were all with the second horse; and if Hotspur had won that year's Derby, his bank account would have been swelled to the tune of some £40,000. The Flying Dutchman was in his time a horse of mark and merit. Up to the day on which he was beaten for the Doncaster Cup by Lord Zetland's Voltigeur, he had proved victorious in ten races, had been allowed to 'walk over' on four occasions, and had placed to Lord Eglinton's credit a sum of £17,775.

The great match which was run by these famous horses has taken its place as one of the classic events of the turf. It was on the Knavesmire at the York Spring Meeting of 1851 that The Flying Dutchman and Voltigeur were brought together, in order to determine which was the better horse. The pair are still

reputed as having been about the best of their kind ; and the fact of their being ‘matched to run a race’ was one of the turf sensations of the period. The terms of the contest were fixed at £1,000, half forfeit, two miles over the old course. The betting, which had been *evens* throughout, continued so up to the fall of the flag, as if it were expected the horses would run a dead heat ; but that event did not occur, as after what may be described as a ‘punishing race,’ the Scottish Earl’s horse proved the victor by a short length. The struggle from beginning to end was an exciting one. Voltigeur started with a lead of about three lengths, which he maintained for a long distance ; but the heavy state of the ground soon began to have its effect, and when his jockey (Marlow) put a pertinent question to The Dutchman, the horse responded with great gameness. The finish of the race exhibited a desperate struggle ; but stride by stride Marlow’s horse came up on Lord Zetland’s fine colt, and won the match amid a scene of wonderful excitement and enthusiasm. The value of the Derby stakes in The Dutchman’s year was £6,575.

Lord Chesterfield’s br. f. Lady Evelyn, ridden by F. Butler, won the Oaks by a length, from fourteen opponents, Mr. B. Green’s Lady Superior being second, and Mr. Wreford’s Woodlark third. 172 subscribers.

Run on Wednesday, May 29th, the Derby honours of 1850 fell to that excellent sportsman, Lord Zetland, whose representative, ridden by Job Marson, ^{1850.} Voltigeur. beat the twenty-three competitors who opposed him. The horses placed were the following :

Lord Zetland's br. c. Voltigeur, by Voltaire out of Martha Lyon	1
Mr. H. Hill's Pitsford, by Epirus - - - - -	2
Lord Airlie's br. c. Clincher, by Turcoman - - - - -	3
Mr. Gratwicke's bl. c. The Nigger - - - - -	4

There also ran the Duke of Richmond's b. c. Ghillie Callum, Lord Exeter's Nutshell, Count Batthyany's Valentine, Mr. Merry's Brennus, Lord Eglinton's Mavors, Sir G. Heathcote's br. c. by Sir Hercules. The price of the winner at the start was 16 to 1, Clincher having been elected favourite at odds of 4 to 1 against him. A horse named Mildew, the property of Mr. Jaques, was second in favour at 9 to 2, and although Pitsford had won the Two Thousand, odds of 12 to 1 were offered against that horse, which was the mount of A. Day. Butler and Flatman were the riders of the horses which were placed third and fourth. The race proved an easy task for Lord Zetland's horse, who without an effort quitted Clincher, who was with him at the road, and won by a length; Pitsford beat Clincher by half a length, and was placed second. 205 subscribers; value of the stakes, £4,975. Voltigeur was in his time considered a grand horse, and possessed a pedigree of great merit, being—according to sporting historians—descended from the Godolphin and the Darley Arabians: 'Every one of the thirty-two sires and dams that appear in the pedigree of Voltigeur can be deduced from the horses just named.' In 1874 Voltigeur had to be destroyed in consequence of having had his leg broken by a kick from a mare.

Mr. Hobson's Rhedycina won the Oaks, F. Butler being jockey; Mr. Powney's Kathleen was second,

ridden by A. Day; Mr. Gratwicke's Countess was placed third. This year there were 128 subscribers, and fifteen of the fillies entered came to the post.

The value of the Derby Stakes of 1851, won by Sir Joseph Hawley's Teddington, to which there were 192 subscribers, was £5,325. The ^{1851.} Teddington. field numbered thirty-three in all, of which the following four were placed by the judge:

Sir J. Hawley's ch. c. Teddington, by Orlando out of Miss Twickenham	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. J. Clark's br. c. Marlborough Buck, by Venison	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. Wilkinson's br. c. Neasham, by Hetman Platoff	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Lord Enfield's br. c. Hernandez, by Pantaloon	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

These four were ridden respectively by Marson, Whitehouse, Holmes and Mann. Behind the placed ones were another of Sir Joseph's, The Bass; two of Lord Eglinton's horses, Bonnie Dundee and Hippolytus; Sir R. Pigot ran two; Mr. Merry's Napoleon helped to swell the field; Baron Rothschild also supplied a runner, as did Lords Exeter, Enfield, and Chesterfield. The betting was 3 to 1 against Teddington, 7 to 2 against Marlborough Buck. The favourite won in a canter by two lengths, beating more horses than had ever before ran in the Derby. The secret of Teddington's probable success was well kept, and a pot of money was landed by the 'lucky baronet.'

Lord Stanley's Iris won the Oaks (the jockey being F. Butler), beating Lord John Scott's Miserrima, Mr. Gratwicke's Hesse Homburg, and twelve others, by three-quarters of a length. 131 subscribers. The

Oaks winner of 1851 'was altogether a strong, powerful, but by no means handsome filly, of very high courage.'

The nice odds of 25 to 1 were obtainable against Daniel O'Rourke, the winner of this year's Derby, to which there were 181 subscribers, the field numbering twenty-seven starters. As appears to have been the rule about this period, the first four were placed by the judge. These were :

1852. Daniel O'Rourke.	Mr. Bowes' ch. c. Daniel O'Rourke, by Irish Birdcatcher out of Forget-Me-Not	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Mr. Bradshaw's b. c. Barbarian, by Simoom	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	Mr. Dorien's bl. c. Chief Baron Nicholson, by the Baron	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	Mr. Merry's Hobbie Noble, by Pantaloon	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

These were ridden by F. Butler, Hiett, Kitchener and W. Sharp respectively, the victory being accomplished by half a length. Little Harry started favourite, odds of 7 to 2 being betted against him ; 4 to 1 was offered against Hobbie Noble, 40 to 1 and 100 to 1 respectively against the Chief Baron and Barbarian. The value of the stakes would amount to a sum of £5,200 ; the portion allotted to the second horse was £100, and the winner was amerced in sums of £100 for police expenses ! as also a fee of £50 to the judge ! Two of the Duke of Richmond's horses were among the runners, Joe Miller was in the field, and Lords Zetland, Ribblesdale, Orford and Exeter, also Lord Eglinton, contributed to the number of starters. The race was won by half a length. The winner was bred by Mr. Bowes, his owner.

Of the 123 fillies entered for the Oaks, fourteen

came to the post, the victorious one being Mr. J. Scott's Songstress, by Irish Birdcatcher ; Bird-on-the-Wing, another Irish Birdcatcher, was second ; whilst Gossamer, another of the same breed, was third. F. Butler, S. Rogers and Job Marson were the respective jockeys of the first three in this year's Oaks. The winner was bred by John Scott, the celebrated trainer. The value of the Oaks won by her was £3,145.

West Australian, one of the few wearers of the equine triple crown, ridden by F. Butler, and starting with odds of 6 to 4 laid against his chance, placed the great race of the year to the credit of Mr. Bowes, beating twenty-seven opponents, and winning very easily, as a reference to Weatherby shows. The judge placed the first four as follows :

1853.	West Australian.	Mr. Bowes' b. c. West Australian, by Melbourne out of Mowerna	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
		Duke of Bedford's ch. c. Sittingbourne, by Chatham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
		Mr. Powney's b. c. Cincas, by Touchstone or Epirus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
		Mr. Howard's ch. c. Rataplan, by The Baron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

Baron Rothschild's Orestes, Lord Londesburgh's The Mayor, Count Batthyany's Stone Plover ; Lords Exeter, Derby, Clifden, Glasgow and Eglinton also contributed horses to the field. Mr. Surtees' Honeywood started second favourite at 6 to 1, but was not placed ; 8 to 1 was betted against Sittingbourne (second in the Two Thousand Guineas), 20 to 1 against Cincas, and 30 to 1 against Rataplan. 194 subscribers ; value of the stakes, £4,450. The ' West ' was bred by Mr. Bowes in 1850, and was from the beginning considered a horse

of mark, and besides winning the great triple event, took some other races of importance. The horse was disposed of to Lord Londesboro' for a sum of £4,750, and in the end became the property of the late Emperor Napoleon.

Catherine Hayes, by Lanercost, the property of Mr. Wauchope, started favourite (5 to 4 against her), and won the Oaks, beating Lord Exeter's Dove and Lord Glasgow's Don John, as also Mr. Stanley's Nicotine and thirteen others, among them Baron Rothschild's Mentmore Lass, winner of the One Thousand Guineas. Marlow rode the winner, securing the victory by a length and a half. 141 subscribers.

'Won by a length' was the verdict given when Andover came to the winning-post in the year 1854; the horse placed third (Hermit, first in the 1854. Andover. Two Thousand) was the property of the same owner. There were 217 subscribers, and the starters numbered twenty-seven, of which the following four were placed :

Mr. Gully's b. c. Andover, by Bay Middleton out of Sister to Ægis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Baron Rothschild's b. c. King Tom, by Harkaway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. Gully's b. c. Hermit, by Bay Middleton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mr. Copperthwait's b. c. The Early Bird, by Irish Birdcatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

The riders of the placed horses were respectively A. Day, Charlton, Wells, and Aldcroft. Lords Derby, Zetland, Lonsdale, and Clifden (2) were represented in the race, as also Baron Rothschild, Mr. R. E. Cooper (2), and Mr. Merry. The betting was 5 to 2 against Lord Derby's Dervish (which came in fifth), 7 to 2 Andover,

8 to 1 King Tom, 20 to 1 Early Bird. Value of the stakes, £6,100.

Mince meat, the property of Mr. Cookson, won the Oaks, steered to victory by Charlton. Lord Derby's Meteora was second, Lord Bruce's Bribery third. There were 156 subscribers, and fifteen fillies came to the starting-post. Meteora, which had gained second place in the One Thousand, started favourite with odds of 6 to 4 *on*.

1855. Twelve horses only started for the Wild Dayrell. Derby of 1855, the following four of which were placed :

Mr. F. L. Popham's br. c. Wild Dayrell, by Ion out of Ellen Middleton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. H. Hill's br. c. Kingstown, by Tearaway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. Merry's Lord of the Isles, by Touchstone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mr. Adkin's b. c. Flatterer, by Hetman Platoff	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

The other runners were Rylstone, Courteney, Strood, Little Brownie, The Cave Adullam, Dirk Hatteraick, Corobeus, and Lord Alfred. The jockey who rode the winner, R. Sherwood, is now in business as a most prosperous trainer at Newmarket. The race was won by two lengths. Although Lord of the Isles had won the Two Thousand Guineas, Wild Dayrell was made favourite at even money; 7 to 4 against Lord of the Isles, 12 to 1 Kingstown, 20 to 1 Flatterer, who is described as being a very bad fourth. 191 subscribers; value of the stakes, £5,075.

Mr. Rudstone Read's Marchioness, by Melbourne out of Cinzelli, ridden by Templeman, won the Oaks of the period by half a length, followed home by Blooming Heather and nine other fillies, the property

of Lord John Scott, Lord Glasgow, Lord Clifden, and other sportsmen. One of the competitors, Nettle, ridden by Marlow, fell, her jockey's leg being broken in consequence. 162 subscribers.

Three of the horses which ran in this year's Two Thousand reappeared in the Derby, Yellow Jack being
 1856. second in both events. Fazzoletto, the
 Ellington. property of Lord Derby, who won 'the Guineas,' although he started favourite for the 'Blue Ribbon,' only attained the barren honour of being fourth. The placings, as given by Weatherby, were as follows :

Admiral Harcourt's br. c. Ellington, by The Flying Dutchman	1
Mr. Howard's ch. c. Yellow Jack, by Irish Birdcatcher	- 2
Lord John Scott's b. c. Cannobie, by Melbourne	- 3
Lord Derby's b. c. Fazzoletto, by Orlando	- 4

Alderoft rode the winner; the jockeys of the other three were Wells, R. Sherwood, and Flatman. Mr. Howard and Lord John Scott had each a couple of colts in the race; Mr. Gratwicke also ran two of his. The betting at the start was as follows: 5 to 2 against Fazzoletto, 7 to 2 against Mr. Fitzwilliam's Wentworth (ridden by A. Day), 6 to 1 against Cannobie, and 15 to 1 against Yellow Jack; the price of Ellington, the winner, being 20 to 1. There were 211 nominations, of which twenty-four appeared at the starting-post. Value of the stakes, £5,875. A very brief account of the race is narrated as follows: 'Won by a length: half a length between second and third.'

Mincepie, by Sweetmeat, the property of Mr. H. Hill, won the Oaks of 1856, to which there were 135 sub-

scribers (or entries), ten of which started, A. Day having the mount on the winner. Lord Clifden's *Melissa* was second, whilst *Victoria*, the property of Mr. Bowes, ran into third place. The race was won by a neck.

This was Blink Bonny's year, Mr. J. Anson's fine
 1857. filly, with odds of 20 to 1 betted against her,
 Blink Bonny. winning the race by a neck in the large field of thirty horses. There were 202 entries. The following were placed:

Blink Bonny, by Melbourne out of Queen Mary	-	-	-	1
Mr. Drinkald's Black Tommy, by Womersley	-	-	-	2
Mr. Mellish's b. c. Adamas, by Touchstone	-	-	-	3
Mr. C. Harrison's b. c. Strathnaver, by Flatcatcher	-	-	-	4

Charlton was the winning jockey; Covey rode the second, Wells the third, and Bumby the fourth horse. Lords Zetland, Exeter, Anglesey, and J. Scott helped to swell the field by starting their colts; Lord Clifden supplied two runners, and Baron Rothschild one. Mr. Merry ran Special License, Lord Anglesey's colt was Ackworth, Mr. Bowes was represented by Bird-in-the-Hand. Mr. J. S. Douglas' Tournament was elected favourite, as little as 4 to 1 being laid against it at the start. Odds of 1,000 to 5 were offered against Black Tommy, whilst 12 to 1 was the price of Adamas. Blink Bonny became the dam of Blair Athol, winner of the Derby in 1864. Queen Mary, the dam of Blink Bonny, was presented by his employer, the then Mr. Ramsay, of Barnton, to Mr. J. Anson, who disposed of her for a trifle: then, after a time, the trainer recovered her, with the result narrated.

The Oaks was also won by Blink Bonny. There were 130 subscribers, and thirteen of their fillies faced the starter. Charlton rode the winner.

Sir Joseph Hawley was this year the happy recipient of the two great stakes of the Two Thousand and the 1858 Derby. The first event fell to him through Beadsman. the aid of Fitz Roland, by Orlando; whilst Beadsman gave him the 'Blue Ribbon.' Four of the runners were named by the judge; these were:

Sir J. Hawley's br. c. Beadsman, by Weatherbit out of Mendicant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lord Derby's b. c. Toxophilite, by Longbow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. Harrison's b. c. The Hadji, by Faugh-a-Ballagh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mr. Howard's b. c. Eclipse, by Orlando	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

Wells, the favourite jockey of Sir Joseph, had the mount on the winner. The other riders were respectively Flatman, Aldcroft, and G. Fordham. There were 200 subscribers to this Derby, twenty-three of which came under the orders of the starter. Mr. Howard had three running; Mr. Gratwicke ran two of his. Lords Glasgow and Ribblesdale had each a horse in the field, Brother to Bird-on-the-Wing being the first-named nobleman's colt. Lord Derby's horse started favourite, with odds of 100 to 30 against it, but only got second, the race being won easily by a length. Ten to 1 was offered against Beadsman. Value of the stakes, £5,575.

Mr. Gratwicke's Governess, which had previously won the One Thousand Guineas, won this year's Oaks, ridden by Ashmall, and beating (after a dead heat) Admiral Harcourt's Gildermire, Mr. Jackson's Tunstall

Maid, and ten others, including fillies started by Lords Derby, Londesborough, Clifden, Portsmouth, and Chesterfield. Mr. Merry's Sunbeam helped to swell the field. 'Won by three-quarters of a length' was the verdict given by the judge.

Beadsman proved a gold-mine to Sir Joseph. Not only did he win a Derby on his own account; he became the sire of another winner of that classic race in Blue Gown, who, ten years later, became the hero of the 'Blue Ribbon.' Beadsman was also the sire of Green Sleeve, the winner of the Middle Park Plate. Rosierucian also was sired by Beadsman. Pero Gomez, too, was a product of the same sire.

Sir Joseph was again credited with the Derby Stakes by the aid of Musjid and his jockey Wells. Out of the 246 horses nominated, thirty came to the post, of which the following attracted the attention of the judge:

1859.	the 246 horses nominated,	thirty	came to	
Musjid.	the post,	of which	the following	attracted
	the attention	of the judge:		
Sir J. Hawley's b. c.	Musjid, by Newminster	-	-	- 1
Mr. C. E. Johnston's br. c.	Marionette, by Touchstone	-	-	- 2
Mr. H. Hill's ch. c.	Trumpeter, by Orlando	-	-	- 3
Mr. W. Day's br. c.	The Promised Land, by Jericho	-	-	- 4

Rogers had the mount on Marionette: A. Day rode Trumpeter, and W. Day was, of course, the rider of The Promised Land, winner of the Guineas. Sir J. Hawley also ran his colt Gallus. Many of the other prominent sportsmen of the period contributed to the field: Mr. Payne, Mr. Merry, and Baron Rothschild among others. The race was won by half a length. The judge had placed Ticket-of-Leave second, but the owner of Marionette made the claim of second place

for his horse, which was allowed by the judge. Musjid was favourite in the betting, the odds being quoted at 9 to 4 against him; the quotation against Promised Land was 7 to 2. Value of the stakes, £5,400. Musjid, it may be mentioned, was bought by Sir Joseph as a two-year-old, at Tickhill, for a very small sum; but the Lord of Kingsclere won a large amount of money by his victory.

Lord Londesboro's br. f. Summerside, by West Australian, won the Oaks, beating fourteen opponents, George Fordham being the rider. Scent was second, Wild Rose third, and Mayonnaise, winner of the One Thousand, fourth. There were 168 subscribers, and the winner won by half a length.

Custance, on Thormanby, won this year's race for Mr. Merry, having a field of twenty-nine horses behind him, there having been 224 entries. Four were placed by the judge:

Mr. Merry's ch. c. Thormanby, by Melbourne or Windbound	-	1
Mr. Nichols' b. c. The Wizard, by West Australian	-	2
Captain Christie's b. c. Horror, by Wild Dayrell	-	3
Count F. de Lagrange's ch. c. Danger, by Fitz-Gladiator	-	4

The Wizard, which had won the Two Thousand, was made favourite, 3 to 1 being laid against him; 4 to 1 against Thormanby was the price of the winner. Mr. Merry had two strings to his bow that year—Northern Light, by Chanticleer, running for him. Sir Joseph Hawley also ran a couple of his horses. Lord Palmerston had a try with Mainstower, and Lords Stamford, Strathmore, Derby, Portsmouth, Glasgow, and Zetland also supplied runners, as did Baron Rothschild.

Mr. Ten Broeck's Umpire, which was causelessly objected to by Mr. John Wyatt, the owner of Nutwith, also ran. Captain Little, Sir Charles Monck, and Mr. T'Anson were also represented in the Derby of 1860. French had the mount on the second horse, Chal-loner being on Horror. The value of the stakes in Thormanby's year amounted to £6,350.

Mr. Eastwood's Butterfly won the Oaks of 1860, and was followed home by Avalanche, Contadina, Rupee, and other nine runners. The winner was steered to victory by James Snowden, Wells having the mount on the second, L. Snowden riding the third. The race was won by half a length. There were 158 subscribers.

The opinion of all who witnessed this year's Derby
 1861. was that, had not Mr. Merry's Dundee
 Kettledrum. broken down just as victory was within his grasp, he would have been returned the winner of the great race; as it happened, running on three legs, he was beaten by a length for the premiership. The placings were as follows :

Colonel Towneley's ch. c. Kettledrum, by Rataplan	-	-	1
Mr. Merry's b. c. Dundee, by Lord of the Isles	-	-	2
Lord Stamford's ch. c. Diophantus, by Orlando	-	-	3
Mr. Hamilton's b. c. Aurelian, by Stockwell	-	-	4

Bullock, Custance, A. Edwards, and J. Goater were the respective riders of the placed horses. There were 236 entries and eighteen runners. Diophantus, which had placed the Two Thousand Guineas to the credit of his noble owner, was nearly as good a favourite at the start as Dundee, their respective prices being 3 to 1 and 4 to 1. The odds quoted against the winner at

starting were 16 to 1. York Minster ran for Mr. Townley ; Mr. Merry's horse, Russley, also ran ; and Count de Lagrange, Lord Glasgow, Lord Stamford, and Sir Joseph Hawley were likewise represented in the race. Value of the stakes, £6,350.

Nemesis, the winner of the One Thousand Guineas, was made favourite for the Oaks, along with Fairwater, but the 'Garter' of the year fell to Mr. Saxon, by the aid of his filly Brown Duchess, which, ridden by Luke Snowden, won the race by a neck. Mr. Harrison's Lady Ripon was second, and Fairwater third. Lords Ailesbury, Chesterfield, and Stamford were represented in the race, as also Baron Rothschild and Count de Lagrange. There were 171 subscribers, and the field embraced seventeen starters.

'Forty to one against Caractacus' was on offer on the 4th day of June, 1862, the Marquis, winner of the Two Thousand, and Mr. Merry's Buckstone, being respectively first and second favourites at odds of 5 to 2 and 100 to 30 against their chances. The following are the names of the first four :

Mr. Snewing's b. c. Caractacus, by Kingston	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. S. Hawke's b. c. The Marquis, by Stockwell	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. Merry's br. c. Buckstone, by Voltigeur	-	-	-	-	3
Mr. Jackson's br. c. Neptunus	-	-	-	-	4

The jockeys, in their order, were J. Parsons, Ashmall, H. Grimshaw, and Bullock. There were thirty-four runners, among the lot being three of Lord Glasgow's unnamed ones ; Sir J. Hawley ran two of his colts, Argonaut and St. Alexis ; Mr. Parr also had two in the field ; Mr. Merry, in addition to Buckstone, ran

The Knave; Lord Stamford ran his br. c. Ensign, which was left so far behind at the start as to lead to a complaint being made by his lordship against the starter, Mr. McGeorge, who was severely reprimanded for starting the horses in advance of the starting-post. 'A repetition of the offence,' said the stewards, 'will justify his dismissal.' Won by a neck; a length and a half between second and third. There were 233 subscribers, so that in Caractacus's year the value of the stakes must have amounted to the handsome sum of £6,675.

With odds of 20 to 1 laid against her, Mr. Naylor's ch. f. Feu de Joie, ridden by Challoner, won the Oaks, followed home by Imperatrice, Hurricane, winner of the One Thousand Guineas, and sixteen others, the entries having numbered 124. Won by two lengths was the verdict of the judge.

Thirty-one horses started on the 20th of May for this year's race, the field being swelled by three of
 1863. Lord Glasgow's, Rapid Rhone, one of the
 Macaroni. number, being placed third. Count de Lagrange supplied two of the number that ran, as did Mr. Naylor, one being the winner, the other Aggressor. Lord Palmerston was also an aspirant for Derby honours; he ran his ch. c. Baldwin. Mr. Bowes, Mr. H. Saville, Sir F. Johnstone, Lords Strathmore, Durham, Stamford, and Bateman also supplied candidates. The following horses received honours from the judge :

Mr. R. C. Naylor's b. c. Macaroni, by Sweetmeat	-	-	-	1
Lord St. Vincent's b. c. Lord Clifden	-	-	-	2
Lord Glasgow's ro. c. Rapid Rhone, by Melbourne	-	-	-	3
Captain D. Lane's b. c. Blue Mantle, by Kingston	-	-	-	4

Challoner had the mount on Mr. Naylor's colt, on which he had previously won the Two Thousand. George Fordham rode Lord Clifden, which, ridden by John Osborne, afterwards won the St. Leger. Doyle officiated as jockey for Lord Glasgow, and steered Rapid Rhone into third place. The race was not without some untoward incidents. A horse named Tambour Major was left at the post, whilst two of the runners fell. The verdict when all was over was: 'Won by half a head.' There were 255 subscribers; the value of the total stake would be £7,100.

Lord Falmouth won this year's Oaks by the aid of Queen Bertha, her rider being Aldcroft. The field numbered twenty, selected from a subscription-list of 185. Mr. Hargreaves obtained second honours with Marigold, Vivid, the property of Count de Lagrange, being third. Odds of 40 to 1 were offered against the winner, who was declared victorious by a head only.

The four placed horses of this year's Derby were
 1864. supplied by Mr. W. P'Anson, Lord Glas-
 Blair Athol. gow, Mr. Merry, and Captain A. Cooper.
 As signalled by the judge these were :

Mr. P'Anson's ch. c. Blair Athol, by Stockwell out of Blink Bonny	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lord Glasgow's b. c. General Peel, by Y. Melbourne	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. Merry's b. c. Scottish Chief, by Lord of the Isles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Captain A. Cooper's br. c. Knight of Snowden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

The number of subscribers in Blair Athol's year was 234, and of these thirty ran their horses. The winning jockey was J. Snowden (brother of Luke), Aldcroft being on the second horse. Among the beaten

lot were the colts of Lord Westmoreland, who sent two to the post, as did Lord Glasgow, his lordship's second horse being Strafford. Mr. H. Hill's Ackworth and Copenhagen also ran. Mr. Naylor helped the field with two of his, whilst Mr. Ten Broeck and Sir Joseph Hawley were also represented. Mr. Hodgman, Sir F. Johnstone, Mr. Saville, and other good patrons of the turf, sent their horses to the starting-post. At one point of the struggle it was thought that General Peel had the race at his mercy, and loud cries went up of 'Lord Glasgow wins!' but the winner was not long left in doubt, as Blair Athol, who had been ridden hard all along the line, won easily enough in the end by two lengths, the General having 'tired to nothing' some little distance from home. The betting was as follows: 9 to 2 against Scottish Chief, 5 to 1 against General Peel (winner of the Two Thousand), 11 to 2 against Birch Broom, 7 to 1 against Cambuscan, and 13 to 1 against Blair Athol. Net value of the stakes, £6,450. Mr. Jackson was reputed at the time to have won £30,000 by the victory of Blair Athol, whilst he also stood to win £20,000 if General Peel had proved successful. Mr. T'Anson, in addition to the stakes, took less than £10,000 out of the ring. No big sums were won, but the public won largely in little amounts. Some patrons of the stable, indeed, were under the impression the horse would not start! Blair Athol had never appeared to run on a racecourse till the day he won the Derby. He was considered one of the three best animals of his time, and it was hoped that he would earn a great reputation at the stud, at which, however, he proved a failure.

Fille de l'Air, the property of Count de Lagrange, ridden by A. Edwards, won the Oaks, with odds of 11 to 8 laid against her; Baron Rothschild's Breeze, ridden by Daley, was second, the same owner's Tomato being third. There were 188 subscribers, and nineteen starters. The race was won very cleverly by half a length. The winner was bred for her owner at Dangu, in Normandy, where was situated his stud-farm; she was by Faugh-a-Ballagh out of Pauline, her sire having in his racing days been a horse of great reputation, having won the St. Leger and the Cesarewitch, carrying the wonderfully great weight for a three-year-old of Sst.

As 'the French year' is noticed at length in 1865. another part of this volume, it is unnecessary to do more here than give the names of the placed horses; these were:

Count F. de Lagrange's b. c. Gladiateur, by Monarque out of Miss Gladiator	- - - - -	1
Mr. R. Walker's br. c. Christmas Carol, by Rataplan out of Middleton	- - - - -	2
Mr. Robinson's ch. c. Eltham, by Marsyas out of Butterfly	- - - - -	3
Mr. Spencer's br. c. Longdown, by Rattle out of Subtilty	- - - - -	4

The respective jockeys were H. Grimshaw, T. French, S. Adams, and J. Osborne. In addition to the above, there were twenty-six other horses in the field, Lords Stamford, Poulet, Durham, Glasgow, and Westmoreland sending runners. Baron Rothschild, Messrs. Chaplin, Merry, Bowes, and T. Parr also sent their representatives. The net value of the stakes (249 subscribers) was £6,875.

Mr. Harlock's Regalia won the Oaks, steered to

victory by Jockey Norman; Mr. Henny's Wild Agnes was second, and Baron Rothschild's Zephyr ran third. Regalia, with odds of 20 to 1 betted against her, won, 'hands down,' by ten lengths. There were 197 subscribers and eighteen starters, the net value of the stakes being £5,300.

With odds of 6 to 5 *on* him, Lord Lyon won the Derby Stakes in 1866, the richest of all the races for
 1866. the 'Blue Ribbon' that had yet been run,
 Lord Lyon. the net value of the stakes having been £7,350. The owner, Mr. Sutton, won, it was said at the time, £58,000 in bets, part of that sum being the £10,000 to £100 which he took when the horse was a yearling. Mr. Sutton was also in this happy position, that had his own horse lost the race and Rustic won, he would have landed £17,000, whilst the one that was placed second would have brought him half that sum: by each of the others he stood to win £7,000. Lord Lyon had previously won the Two Thousand. The horses placed were:

Mr. R. Sutton's b. c. Lord Lyon, by Stockwell out of	
Paradigm	1
Lord Ailesbury's ch. c. Savernake, by Stockwell out of Bribery	2
Duke of Beaufort's ch. c. Rustic, by Stockwell out of Village	
Lass	3
Lord Exeter's Knight of the Crescent, by Knight of St. Patrick	4

Mr. Bowes ran a horse, of which Stockwell was also the sire, whilst five 'Newminster' horses took part in the race. Custance rode the winner, and is described as having won 'one of the most exciting and punishing races ever witnessed, by a head only.' One of the racing papers of the date states that, 'from

being first favourite, Lord Lyon, as a matter of course, was the idol of most of the prophets and tipsters,' which meant that these gentlemen then, as now, were in the habit of following the money. Westwood, Vespasian, Strathconan, and Monarch of the Glen were among the twenty-six runners. There were 274 subscribers in Lord Lyon's year.

Tormentor, the property of Mr. B. E. Dunbar, won the Oaks, the rider being J. Mann, Mr. Merry's Mirella being second, and the Duke of Beaufort's Ischia third. There were 175 subscribers, and seventeen fillies came to the starting-post.

Hermit's Derby was in some respects the most sensational of all the long series of these races. The ^{1867.} horse, starting with the wonderful odds of Hermit. 100 to 1 against him, won, just by a neck, one of the most exciting races ever known, being remarkably well ridden by J. Daley, thus enabling Mr. Chaplin to win the Derby at the third time of asking. The horses placed in this year's race were :

Mr. Chaplin's ch. c. Hermit, by Newminster out of Seclusion	1
Mr. Merry's ch. c. Marksman, by Dundee out of Shot	2
Duke of Beaufort's br. c. Vauban, by Muscovite out of Palm	3
Duke of Hamilton's b. c. Wild Moor, by Wild Dayrell out of Golden Horn	4

Messrs. Saville, Eastwood, and J. Johnstone each ran two. Amongst the horses that ran were Taraban, Tynedale, Van Amburgh, The Rake, The Palmer, Julius, and Uncas. Vauban, winner of the Two Thousand Guineas, ridden by George Fordham, started favourite in Hermit's year, with odds of 6 to 4 against him : The Palmer, at 7 to 1, was made second

favourite. There were 256 subscribers, thirty of which came to the post. The net value of the stakes amounted to £7,000. A volume of the stories circulated might easily be collected about 'Hermit's Derby'; many of them, however, were not founded on fact, while the best of them have been so often told that they will not bear repetition. About the jockey's fee for riding Hermit absurd tales were related: as a matter of fact, he was promised £3,000 if he won the race, and he got the money. A racing paper of the day stated that Mr. Chaplin won £141,000 in bets by the success of his horse, which has since earned a fortune for his owner at the stud. The horse was purchased from Mr. Blenkiron for a thousand guineas! The Duke of Hamilton, who had laid £180,000 to £6,000 against Hermit for the Derby, must have rejoiced at his good fortune in getting the bet declared 'off' long before the day of the race.

For the Oaks this was Hippias's year, ridden by J. Daley. She brought home the 'Garter' to Baron Rothschild, winning the race in clever fashion by a length. Colonel Pearson and Mr. J. Osborne ran a dead heat for second honours with Achievement and Romping Girl. The winner started at 12 to 1, 3 to 1 being laid on Achievement, who was made favourite. 206 subscribers, eight runners.

The eighty-ninth Derby was won by Sir Joseph Hawley, his horse, Blue Gown, ridden by Wells, being
1868. declared the victor, Green Sleeve and
Blue Gown. Rosicrucian being also started by Sir Joseph. Lady Elizabeth was made favourite, odds

of 7 to 4 being laid against her ; but she never showed prominently in the race, and 'the Lady Elizabeth scandal' was for a long time a prominent theme of controversy, whilst the fortunes and misfortunes of the Marquis of Hastings have been over and over again discussed in journals and other periodicals devoted to the interests of the turf. The three placed horses were :

Sir J. Hawley's b. c. Blue Gown, by Beadsman	-	-	-	1
Baron Rothschild's b. c. King Alfred	-	-	-	2
Duke of Newcastle's b. c. Speculum	-	-	-	3

Norman rode the second horse, and Kenyon had the handling of Speculum. Other horses of note in the race were Mr. Hodgman's Paul Jones (which, in expectation of its victory, had a large following), St. Ronan, the property of Mr. Chaplin, and Lord Wilton's Sec-Saw. Baron Rothschild also ran Suffolk, whilst Lord Glasgow was represented by Brother to Bird-on-the-Wing. Pace, a horse belonging to the Duke of Newcastle, broke down, and did not run, but the field numbered eighteen, and there were 260 subscribers, the value of the stakes, as given in the 'Calendar,' being £6,800. Sir Joseph declared to win with either Rosierucian or Green Sleeve in preference to Blue Gown, which the public would have, despite the fact that the owner would not have it. It was said that the jockey, on being offered his choice of the three, selected Blue Gown, which started at odds of 7 to 2, Paul Jones being next in demand at 8 to 1. The race was won by half a length. Several mishaps occurred in the course of the struggle. Samson broke down, and Lord Ailesbury's Franchise, a chestnut

filly, broke her leg, and was destroyed. Sir Joseph sold Blue Gown to the Prussians for £7,000. During his three-year-old career the horse had won £10,000 for his owner in stakes alone, including, of course, the Derby, the fourth of the series which fell to the Kingsclere breeder. Blue Gown was trained by Mr. John Porter.

The Oaks of 1868 fell to Formosa, ridden by G. Fordham. Lady Coventry ran into second place, J. Daley being her rider. Athena, the property of Mr. Padwick, was placed third. Lady Elizabeth was also among the starters, but not one of the eight fillies was able to keep Formosa out of the first place, which she gained by ten lengths. There were 215 subscribers, and the stakes amounted to a sum of £5,450.

Starting 'first favourite' for the Derby of this year, and ridden by John Osborne, Pretender, winner of the
 1869. Two Thousand Guineas, beat Sir Joseph
 Pretender. Hawley's Pero Gomez by a head, and by so doing secured the 'Blue Ribbon' for Mr. Johnstone. Many persons, however, would not accept the verdict of the judge, maintaining that Pero Gomez had won; and when that horse won the St. Leger, in which Pretender was not in the first three, the usual cry of 'Didn't I tell you that?' was everywhere heard. The three placed horses were :

Mr. J. Johnstone's br. c. Pretender, by Adventurer	-	-	1
Sir J. Hawley's br. c. Pero Gomez	-	-	2
Mr. G. Jones's b. c. The Drummer	-	-	3

Wells and Morris rode the second and third.

Martyrdom, Belladrum, Perrydown, Rhyshworth, Ladas, Alpenstock, and Ethus also ran in the Derby of 1869, for which there were 247 subscribers and twenty-two runners, the stakes being valued at the sum of £6,225. The race was won by a head, there being a length between the second and third. Betting: 11 to 8 against Pretender, 11 to 2 against Pero Gomez, and 6 to 1 against Belladrum.

Sir F. Johnstone won the Oaks, the ninety-first of the series, by the aid of his filly Brigantine, which was ridden by Cannon. Sir Joseph Hawley's Morna was second, and Sir R. W. Bulkeley's Martinique third. The race was won by two lengths, Morna starting favourite with odds of 6 to 4 against her. There were 187 subscribers and fifteen runners. Value of the stakes, £4,550. Brigantine ran in the One Thousand Guineas, being placed third. Scottish Queen, the winner of the One Thousand, was not placed in the Oaks. Morna achieved second honours in both of these races.

It was not to be wondered at that MacGregor should start a 'red-hot favourite' for the Derby of this year, seeing that he had previously won the Two
1870. Kingcraft. Thousand Guineas by five lengths—Kingcraft running third. It will be well in the recollection of all race-goers that the defeat of Mr. Merry's horse caused quite 'a sensation,' and that all sorts of ugly stories were circulated regarding the untoward event, which affected many thousands who had backed him, Mr. Merry's horses being always heavily supported by the public. No true reason for the defeat of MacGregor

was ever arrived at; but many suppositions, some of them ugly enough, have from time to time been made. In 1870 the field numbered fifteen horses, of which, as usual, three were placed, these being:

Lord Falmouth's b. c. Kingcraft, by King Tom	-	-	-	1
Mr. W. S. Crawford's br. c. Palmerston	-	-	-	2
Lord Wilton's bl. c. Muster	-	-	-	3

The race was won by four lengths, T. French riding. MacGregor, ridden by George Fordham, only obtained the fourth place; Mr. Joseph Dawson ran two horses, King o' Scots and Camel. Lord Stamford's Normanby, second in the Guineas, also ran; the third in the Guineas was Kingcraft. The betting at the start was 9 to 4 *on* MacGregor, 20 to 1 against Kingcraft. Muster does not seem to have had a quotation. Two hundred and fifty-two subscribers; value of the stakes, £6,175.

Fordham rode the winner of the Oaks, Gamos, the property of Mr. G. Jones, which won by a length from Mr. Merry's Sunshine, Mr. England's Paté being third. Mr. Joseph Dawson's Hester was made favourite at even money; the price of Gamos was 12 to 8. One hundred and eighty-seven subscribers; seven started.

This was 'The Baron's year,' and there were many who took advantage of the advice given to 'follow The
 1871. Baron,' who this year won the Derby, Oaks,
 Favonius. St. Leger, and Cesarewitch, as well as some other races of lesser value. A felicitous name was chosen for the Zephyr colt when it was called Favonius. In 1871 there was a dead heat for

second honours. The following were named by the judge :

Baron Rothschild's ch. c. Favonius	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. Cartwright's ch. c. Albert Victor	-	-	-	-	-	†
Mr. Merry's b. c. King of the Forest	-	-	-	-	-	†
Mr. G. G. Keswick's bl. c. Digby Grand	-	-	-	-	-	4

Bothwell, winner of the Two Thousand Guineas, also ran ; likewise Mr. Saville's Ripponden and Mr. Bowes' Field-Marshal ; Messrs. Chaplin, Naylor, and H. Jennings were also represented in the field. The winning jockey was T. French. Custance, Snowden, and Fordham had also mounts. Betting: 5 to 2 against Bothwell, 4 to 1 Albert Victor, 8 to 1 Pearl, 9 to 1 Favonius. Mr. Johnstone, who ran two, declared to win with Bothwell. Two hundred and eight subscribers ; seventeen starters. Value of the stakes, £5,125.

Hannah won the Oaks, and was followed home by Noblesse, Hopbine, and six other fillies. 'The Baron' also ran Corisande, but declared to win with Hannah, who was ridden by Maidment. The Pearl also started. The betting was 6 to 5 against Hannah, who won the race by three-quarters of a length. One hundred and seventy-five subscribers.

'Won by a head,' was the verdict in favour of the
 1872. horse which came in first for the ninety-third
 Cremorne. renewal of the Derby Stakes, beating twenty-two competitors. The following were placed :

Mr. H. Saville's b. c. Cremorne, by Parmesan	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. J. N. Astley's br. c. Pell Mell	-	-	-	-	2
Lord Falmouth's Queen's Messenger	-	-	-	-	3

Cremorne and Queen's Messenger ran second and

third respectively to Prince Charlie in the Two Thousand Guineas. Landmark, Almoner, Wenlock and Statesman also ran in both races. Prince Charlie, although placed second to Wenlock in the St. Leger, did not gain honours in the Derby. Among the other candidates for the 'Blue Ribbon' were Vanderdecken, Laburnam, and Bertram. Maidment rode the winner; Chaloner and T. French coming in second and third. There were 191 subscribers. Betting: 5 to 2 against Prince Charlie, 3 to 1 Cremorne, and 6 to 1 Queen's Messenger. Value of the race, £4,830.

Reine, by Monarque, the property of Mr. Lefevre, ridden by G. Fordham, won the Oaks; Mr. Cartwright's Louise Victoria being second, and Guadaloupe third. 170 subscribers; seventeen runners. Won by half a length. Betting: 5 to 2 against Louise Victoria, 3 to 1 Reine.

Gang Forward and Kaiser, who ran first and second in the Two Thousand, could only run a dead-heat for ^{1873.} second place in the Derby of 1873, which ^{Doncaster.} was won by a horse that was not placed in the Guineas, and which, starting at 40 to 1, was evidently not expected to do much in that race. Six of the horses which ran in the big Newmarket event formed half the field at Epsom, the runners-up being :

Mr. Merry's ch. c. Doncaster, by Stockwell	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. W. S. Crawford's ch. c. Gang Forward	-	-	-	-	†
Mr. Saville's b. c. Kaiser	-	-	-	-	†

Montargis, Beadroll, Snail, Andred, Chandos, Hochstapler, Meter, Somerset, and Sulieman. F. Webb was

the pilot of the winner ; Chaloner and Maidment being on the dead-heaters. The race was won by a length and a half, the odds offered against Doncaster at the start being 40 to 1 ; 9 to 4 against Gang Forward, 4 to 1 against Kaiser. Chandos ran into fourth place. There were 201 subscribers. Value of the stakes, £4,825. Doncaster has, it may be said, proved a gold-mine to the Duke of Westminster, who purchased the horse from Mr. Robert Peck at a cost of £14,000, or guineas, the animal having been bought by Mr. Peck for £4,000 less than that amount from Mr. Merry, for whom he trained it ; it has been said the purchase of Doncaster was the best day's work the Duke ever did, and the sale of the horse the worst day's work ever done by Mr. Peck ; but then it could not at the time be foreseen that Doncaster would prove such a rare good bargain. Mr. John Corlett, a well-informed writer on turf affairs, estimates that the horse and his progeny have been worth to the noble Duke considerably over £150,000.

'It never rains but it pours,' says the old proverb, and in Mr. Merry's case it proved true, the Oaks and also the St. Leger falling to him by the aid of his charming filly Marie Stuart, which, ridden by Cannon, beat seventeen competitors (139 subscribers), winning the race by five lengths. Wild Myrtle was second, Angela third. The odds of 2 to 1 were offered against Marie Stuart. Marie Stuart, the winner of both the Oaks and St. Leger, was purchased from Mr. Merry, to whom she belonged, for a sum of 3,500 guineas, by Mr. W. S. Crawford.

Lord Falmouth ran two of his horses in this year's Derby, one of them being Atlantic, the winner of the Two Thousand Guineas, but the 'Blue Ribbon' fell to another gentleman, Mr. Cartwright, who also ran two of his colts. The three placed horses were :

1874. George Frederick.	Mr. W. S. Cartwright's ch. c. George Frederick, by Marsyas	-	-	-	-	1
	Lord Rosebery's br. c. Couronne de Fer	-	-	-	-	2
	Lord Falmouth's ch. c. Atlantic	-	-	-	-	3

The name of the winning jockey was Custance. Among the other runners were Ecosais, Glen Almond, and Trent. The race was won by two lengths. Mr. Merry's horse, Glen Almond, started favourite at 9 to 2, 9 to 1 was laid against George Frederick, and 7 to 1 against Couronne de Fer. There were 212 subscribers, twenty horses coming to the starting-post. Value of the stakes, £5,350.

Apology, ridden by John Osborne, won the Oaks by three lengths from Miss Toto ; Aventurine was among the competitors ; Lady Patricia ran third. Miss Toto was favourite with odds of 7 to 4 against her ; Apology started at 5 to 2. 182 subscribers, eleven ran.

There were 198 subscribers to this year's Derby, the value of which is set down at £4,950, and a field of eighteen horses came to the post, the following three being placed :

1875. Galopin.	Prince Batthyany's b. c. Galopin, by Vedette	-	-	-	-	1
	Lord Aylesford's b. c. Claremont	-	-	-	-	2
	Lord Falmouth's Repentance Colt	-	-	-	-	3

His lordship also ran Garterly Bell. Count de Lagrange ran two of his horses ; Camballo, which had

won 'the Guineas' for Mr. Vyner, also ran, but was not placed. Balfe, Earl of Dartrey, Temple Bar, and Woodlands helped to strengthen the field. The placed jockeys were Morris, Maidment, and F. Archer. Betting: 2 to 1 against Galopin, 100 to 12 against Balfe, 9 to 1 against Camballo, 100 to 7 against Claremont. Won by a length.

Lord Falmouth ran two in the Oaks, and won with Spinaway, ridden by F. Archer; he also ran second with Ladylove, ridden by Constable. There were seven runners, the number of subscribers being 128. The race was won by three lengths.

The race for the Derby Stakes, run on Wednesday, May 31st, was won by Kisber, says a brief chronicle of 1876. the race, 'in a canter, by five lengths.'

Kisber. There were 226 subscribers, and fifteen horses faced the starter; these were Mr. Baltazzi's Kisber (the winner), Forerunner (second), Julius Cæsar (third—second in the Two Thousand Guineas), Petrarch (winner of the Two Thousand and St. Leger), All Heart, Father Claret, Bay Wyndham, Skylark, Great Tom, Coltness, Hardrada, Braconnier, Wild Tommy (afterwards second in the St. Leger), Advance, and Wisdom. The betting was 7 to 2 against Mr. Baltazzi's colt and 2 to 1 against the favourite, Petrarch, the winner of the 'Guineas,' which, however, only gained fourth honours. Maidment rode the winner, Webb, Cannon, and Morris having the mounts on the other placed horses. Value of the stakes, £5,575.

'The Oaks Stakes of £4,000,' says a racing writer of

the period, 'resulted in a dead-heat between Mr. Lupin's Enguerrande, by Vermout, and Lord Falmouth's Camelia, and the first-named, having walked over, was considered the winner, but the stakes were divided.' The winner was ridden by Hudson, Glover having the mount on Camelia. There were 164 subscribers, and the field comprised fourteen horses.

Silvio, the property of Lord Falmouth, by the aid of F. Archer—now started on his career as an able and prosperous jockey—won this year's Derby ^{1877.} by half a length. There were 245 subscribers, and seventeen horses came to the starting-post, of which four were placed by the judge; these were :

Lord Falmouth's b. c. Silvio, by Blair Athol	-	-	-	1
Mr. W. S. Mitchell Innes's b. c. Glen Arthur	-	-	-	2
Mr. J. T. Mackenzie's ch. c. Rob Roy	-	-	-	3
Mr. W. Bevill's b. c. Rhidoroeh	-	-	-	4

Other runners were Thunderstone, Chamant, Don Carlos, and Touchet. Rob Roy was elected favourite in the betting, with odds of 3 to 1 offered against him; the price of the winner was 100 to 9. Weatherby gives the value of the race at £6,050, but, according to Cocker, the amount should be £6,550; a sum of £450 deducted for second and third would therefore leave £6,100 to the winner.

The ninety-ninth race for the Oaks fell to Mr. Pulteney's Placide, ridden by H. Jeffrey, Belphebe second, Muscatel third. Lady Golightly and five others ran, including Lord Wilton's Quickstep. The race was won by three-quarters of a length.

The ninety-ninth renewal of the Derby Stakes was
 1878. contested by a field of twenty-two horses.
 Sefton. To the race of 1878 there were 231 sub-
 scribers. The following were placed :

Mr. W. S. Crawford's b. c. Sefton, by Speculum	-	-	-	1
Count F. de Lagrange's bl. c. Insulaire	-	-	-	2
Lord Falmouth's b. c. Childeric	-	-	-	3

The jockeys of these horses were Constable, Goater, and Archer; the race was won by a length and a half. In the field were Thurio, Attalus, and two of Count de Lagrange's horses, in addition to the one placed second, which started favourite with odds of 100 to 30 betted against it. Bonnie Scotland, one of Lord Rosebery's—his lordship ran two—was second favourite; 100 to 12 was laid against Sefton. The value of the race, as given in the 'Book Calendar,' was £5,825.

On Friday, June 7th, was run the hundredth Oaks, which was secured by Lord Falmouth by the aid of Jannette, ridden by F. Archer. Pilgrimage, the property of Lord Lonsdale, was second, and was made favourite in the betting at even money, in consequence, no doubt, of its victory in the Two Thousand and One Thousand Guineas, in the latter of which she beat Jannette by three-quarters of a length. Clementina was third in both races. 212 subscribers; eight ran.

The one hundredth renewal of the Derby Stakes, run on Wednesday, May 28th, was signalized by a circumstance with which many persons were gratified: it was the winning of the Derby by
 1879. Sir Bevys. George Fordham, at one period the 'chief jockey' of the

United Kingdom, and undoubtedly an able and honest horseman, who had often before been entrusted with a 'Derby mount,' but had never proved successful. The horse he rode was Sir Bevys, which started at the odds of 20 to 1, and was said to have won the race because 'the state of the ground made it heavy going,' etc., etc. The first three were:

Mr. Acton's br. c. Sir Bevys, by Favonius	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. J. Trotter's ch. c. Palmbearer	-	-	-	-	2
Lord Rosebery's br. c. Visconti	-	-	-	-	3

Lord Falmouth's Charibert, winner of 'the Guineas,' also ran; likewise Victor Chief, Cadogan, Rayon d'Or, Zut, and Ruperra. The betting was 9 to 2 against Cadogan, 5 to 1 against Victor Chief, 6 to 1 against Charibert, 66 to 1 Visconti, and 100 to 1 Palmbearer. 'Won by three-quarters of a length; a length between the second and third.' 278 subscribers; twenty-three runners. The value of the stakes to the winner is given in the Calendar at £7,025; but if all the subscribers paid, the value of the race should be stated at £7,525, of which the second horse earns £300, and the third £150.

This year the 'Garter of the Turi' was awarded to Lord Falmouth. Wheel of Fortune, ridden by F. Archer, won the race by three lengths in a field of eight competitors. Mr. Cookson's Coromandel II. took second honours, the Duke of Westminster running into third place with Adventure. 189 subscribers.

Bend Or's Derby may certainly claim a place among

the more sensational of these races, seeing that the horse was objected to on the ground that ^{1880.} Bend Or. he was not the horse he was represented to be either in the entry or at the time of the race; and so there arose what was known at the time as a 'Bend Or scare,' and there are many who still believe, notwithstanding the decision of the stewards, that Bend Or was a changeling. The decision of the stewards was worded as follows: 'We, as stewards of Epsom, unanimously decide that the chestnut colt Bend Or, which came in first for the Derby of 1880, is by Doncaster out of Rouge Rose, and therefore the objection lodged by Messrs. Brewer and Blanton is overruled.' Additional particulars of the Bend Or fright will be found on another page. The following were among the runners:

Duke of Westminster ch. c. Bend Or, by Doncaster	-	-	1
Mr. C. Brewer's Robert the Devil	-	-	2
Prince Soltykoff's ch. c. Mask	-	-	3

F. Archer rode the winner. Muncaster also ran for the Duke of Westminster, and two of Lord Rosebery's horses helped to swell the field; Mr. R. Jardine ran Teviotdale; Cylinder and Apollo also ran. The winner started favourite with odds of 2 to 1 betted against him. Von Der Tann, the property of Lord Calthorpe, was second favourite at 100 to 15 against; Robert the Devil's price in the quotations was 7 to 1. 256 subscribers; nineteen starters. Value, £6,375. The race was won by a head.

Jenny Howlet, the property of Mr. Perkins, starting with odds of 33 to 1 against her, and ridden by Snow-

den, beat twelve opponents and won the Oaks; Bonnie Maiden second, War-Horn third. Versigny was made favourite at 6 to 5. 187 subscribers. Won easily by four lengths.

This may be called the American year, and when the made-up word 'Iroperrow,' denoting, as per arrangement, the first three in the race, ^{1881.} was received in New York, the rejoicing in Iroquois. sporting circles was something wonderful to behold. The word is composed of the first three letters of the names of the first three horses in the race; these were:

Mr. P. Lorillard's br. c. Iroquois, by Leamington	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. Grosvenor's br. c. Peregrine	-	-	-	-	2
Lord Rosebery's b. c. Town Moor	-	-	-	-	3

In addition to these there were among the starters Prince Soltykoff's Scobell, Mr. T. Gretton's Geologist, Lord Rosebery's Voluptuary, Mr. Keene's Don Fulano, Mr. Lefevre's Tristan, and eight other horses belonging to various owners, so that the field comprised sixteen animals, Iroquois winning the race by half a length. The American horse was ridden by F. Archer, Webb and Lemaire riding second and third respectively. Peregrine, as winner of the Two Thousand, was made favourite in the Derby betting, the quotation being 6 to 5 against him; 11 to 2 was laid against Iroquois, which was second in the Guineas; Geologist was next in demand, whilst 25 to 1 was laid against Town Moor. For this year's Derby there were 242 subscribers, the value of the stakes being £5,925.

Fordham this year rode the winner of the Oaks,

Thebais, the property of Mr. W. S. Crawford, which won easily by three lengths, beating eleven competitors; Lucy Glitters was second, Myra third. There were 182 subscribers to the Oaks of 1881.

Although Shotover won the Two Thousand Guineas, Bruce started favourite for this year's Derby, ridden by S. Mordan; but that horse was not ^{1882.} Shotover. destined to prove the winner, as the following list of the placed horses will show :

Duke of Westminster's ch. f. Shotover, by Hermit	-	-	1
Lord Bradford's b. c. Quicklime	-	-	2
Mr. P. Lorillard's ch. c. Sachem	-	-	3
Mr. H. Rymill's b. c. Bruce	-	-	4

Among the other ten runners which, with the above, comprised the field, and which were afterwards known as horses of mark, were Lord Falmouth's filly Dutch Oven and Count de Lagrange's horse Executor. T. Cannon was entrusted with the handling of the Duke's filly, whilst Wood and Webb rode the second and third. Betting: 9 to 4 against Bruce, 11 to 2 against Shotover, 10 to 1 against Dutch Oven. Shotover won the race by three-quarters of a length. 197 subscribers. Value of the race, £4,775.

T. Cannon was so fortunate as to ride the winners of both races. The first three were Geheimniss, the property of Lord Stamford, Mr. W. S. Crawford's Marguerite, and Mr. L. de Rothschild's Nellie. Lord Stamford also ran Incognito, and Count de Lagrange's Lady May completed the field. The betting is recorded as being 6 to 4 on Geheimniss. There were

150 subscribers, the value of the stakes being £3,375.
 ‘Won by two lengths.’

Eleven horses only came to the post on Wednesday,
 1883. May 24th, although the entries numbered
 St. Blaise. 215, and the value of the race was £5,150.

The first three were :

Sir F. Johnstone's ch. c. St. Blaise, by Hermit	-	-	-	1
Lord Ellesmere's b. c. Highland Chief	-	-	-	2
Lord Falmouth's br. c. Galliard	-	-	-	3

The Prince, Splendor, Goldfield, Beau Brummel, Ladislas, Laocoon, Sigmaphone and Bon Jour were the other runners. Galliard, as winner of the Two Thousand Guineas, started favourite with odds of 7 to 2 betted against him, 5 to 1 each against The Prince, Goldfield and St. Blaise. Charles Wood rode the winner, and ‘won by a neck’ was the verdict of the judge, although many who were present thought that victory had fallen to Highland Chief.

Lord Rosebery, owner of the Durdans Estate at Epsom, whose great ambition is, it is said, to win the Derby, obtained this year a foretaste of good fortune in winning the Oaks with his filly Bonny Jean, which was steered to victory by J. Watts. The betting at the start was 5 to 1 against his lordship's mare, which, with thirtecn horses behind her, obtained a very easy victory. There were 145 subscribers to the race.

The hundred and fifth Derby resulted
 1884. St. Gatien and Harvester. in a dead-heat, the dual winners being
 Harvester. St. Gatien and Harvester, who beat their eleven opponents. The following were the placings :

Mr. J. Hammond's b. c. St. Gatien, by Rotherhill or Rover	} 1	
Sir J. Willoughby's br. c. Harvester - - - -		
Sir J. Willoughby's ch. f. Queen Adelaide - - - -		- 3
Mr. W. Stevenson's ch. c. Waterford - - - -		- 4

St. Medard, Talisman, Loeh Ranza, Brest, Bedouin, Beauchamp, Borneo, Richmond, Condor, Woodstock and The Hopeful Dutchman made up the field of seventeen. The jockeys who brought about the dead-heat were C. Wood and S. Loates. The betting against the placed horses was as follows: 5 to 2 Queen Adelaide, 100 to 9 Waterford, 100 to 8 St. Gatien, and 100 to 7 Harvester. 189 subscribers. Value of the race, £4,900. Verdict, 'A dead heat; Queen Adelaide beaten two lengths.' St. Medard and Harvester ran second and third in the Two Thousand.

Mr. Abington's b. f. Busybody won the Oaks, Mr. Peck's Superba being second, Queen Adelaide third. Cannon rode the winner, which started at odds *on* of 105 to 100, and took the race by half a length. 148 subscribers; nine starters.

Twelve horses started for the Derby, which was
 1885. run on Wednesday, June 3rd, to which
 Melton. there were 198 subscribers, the value of the
 race being £4,525. The order of placing was :

Lord Hastings' b. c. Melton, by Master Kildare	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. Brodrick-Cloete's Paradox	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. Childwick's b. c. Royal Hampton	-	-	-	-	3

F. Archer, C. Webb, and A. Giles rode these horses; in addition to which the following ran: Xaintrailles, Red Ruin, Sheraton, Choubra, Esterling, Crafton,

Luminary, Lynette Colt and Kingwood. 'Won by a head, a bad third.'

Lord Cadogan's br. f. Lonely, by Hermit, ridden by Archer, won the Oaks of the year, and was followed home by St. Helena, Cipollina, and seven other fillies. The winner started favourite at odds of 85 to 40 against her. There were 144 subscribers, and the race was won by a length and a half.

Winner of the Two Thousand, Derby, and St. Ormonde. 1886. Leger, the Duke of Westminster added largely to his turf successes by the aid of Ormonde. The first three in the Derby were :

Duke of Westminster's b. c. Ormonde, by Bend Or	-	-	1
Mr. R. Peck's ch. c. The Bard	-	-	2
Mr. Manton's br. c. St. Mirin	-	-	3

Button Park, Ariel, Scherzo, Coracle, Grey Friars, and Chelsea also ran. Archer rode the winner, which, starting with odds of 9 to 4 laid *on* him, won the race by a length and a half. 199 subscribers, and nine starters. Value, £4,700.

Miss Jummy, the property of the Duke of Hamilton, won the Oaks, beating Argo Navis, Braw Lass, and nine others. Webb rode the winner, which, starting at evens, won the race by half a length. 138 subscribers.

Mr. Abington may be said to have obtained at almost the first time of asking what other men have tried for many long years to obtain—namely, the honour of winning the Derby—and have not succeeded. Of the 190

1887.
Merry Hamp-
ton.

subscribers who entered for the 'Blue Ribbon' of 1887, Mr. Abington was the man to whom victory fell by the aid of his horse Merry Hampton, ridden by John Watts, which came in first in a field of eleven, winning the race by four lengths; Mr. Fern's The Baron obtained second place, Martley being third. Among the runners were Aintree, Eiridsjord, and Grandison. The Baron was made favourite in the betting, and started with odds of 5 to 4 *on* him; Eiridsjord and Martley were next in demand; whilst the price of the winner was 100 to 9. The value of the stakes was £4,525.

His Grace the Duke of Beaufort secured the Oaks by the aid of Rêve d'Or, C. Wood being the successful jockey. The filly started with odds of 11 to 4 betted on her, and raced away from eight competitors, beating St. Helen, who was second, by three lengths. There were 142 subscribers to the race.

Ridden by F. Barrett, and with odds of 6 to 5 laid
 1888. on him, Ayrshire credited the Duke of
 Ayrshire. Portland with the 'Blue Ribbon of the
 Turf.' The following horses comprised the field:

Duke of Portland's Ayrshire	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. Vyner's Crowberry	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. C. D. Rose's Van Dieman's Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

Galore, Orbit, Chillington, Nether Avon, Simon Pure, and Gautby. Ayrshire had previously won the Riddlesworth Stakes at Newmarket, beating his sole opponent by twenty lengths. The Two Thousand Guineas was also won by the same horse, beating the

field of five that opposed him. There were 163 subscribers, and as has been stated, nine runners, the value of the stakes being given in the turf-guides as £3,675. Osborne, Watts, Webb, and Cannon, as also Loates, Robinson, Rickaby, and Elliot had mounts in the race, which was won by two lengths.

Six fillies only out of 132 entered came to the starting-post to compete for the 'Garter of the Turf,' which was secured by Lord Calthorpe's Seabreeze, ridden by F. Robinson; Rada was second, and Belle Mahone third. The judge's brief description was: 'Won by two lengths.'

The Derby of 1889 requires the briefest possible chronicle, as the race cannot yet have been forgotten.

1889. It was won for the Duke of Portland by Donovan. Donovan, which did not win the Two Thousand Guineas, but afterwards won the St. Leger at Doncaster, and, in the course of the year, several other races. There were thirteen in the competing field, the first three being:

The Duke of Portland's Donovan	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mr. J. Gratton's Miguel	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mr. D. Baird's El Dorado	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

The other horses started for the race were Pioneer, Gay Hampton, Morglay, Laureate (winner of the Cambridgeshire), Enthusiast, The Turcophone, Gulliver, Folengo, Glover, and Royal Star. Donovan was ridden by T. Loates, Miguel by G. Barrett, El Dorado by T. Cannon. 'Won by a length and a half.' 169

subscribers. Value of the stakes, £4,550.* Betting : 11 to 8 on Donovan, 25 to 1 against Miguel, 100 to 8 against El Dorado.

The Oaks of this year was secured by Lord Randolph Churchill by the aid of L'Abbesse de Jouarre, ridden by J. Woodburn, Minthe being second, and Seclusion third. 'Won by a neck.' There were 112 subscribers, and twelve came to the post.

* This and the foregoing figures as to the value of stakes must not be taken as being perfectly accurate : the later statements are from the Calendar ; the earlier figures of the race have been calculated.

THE END.



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